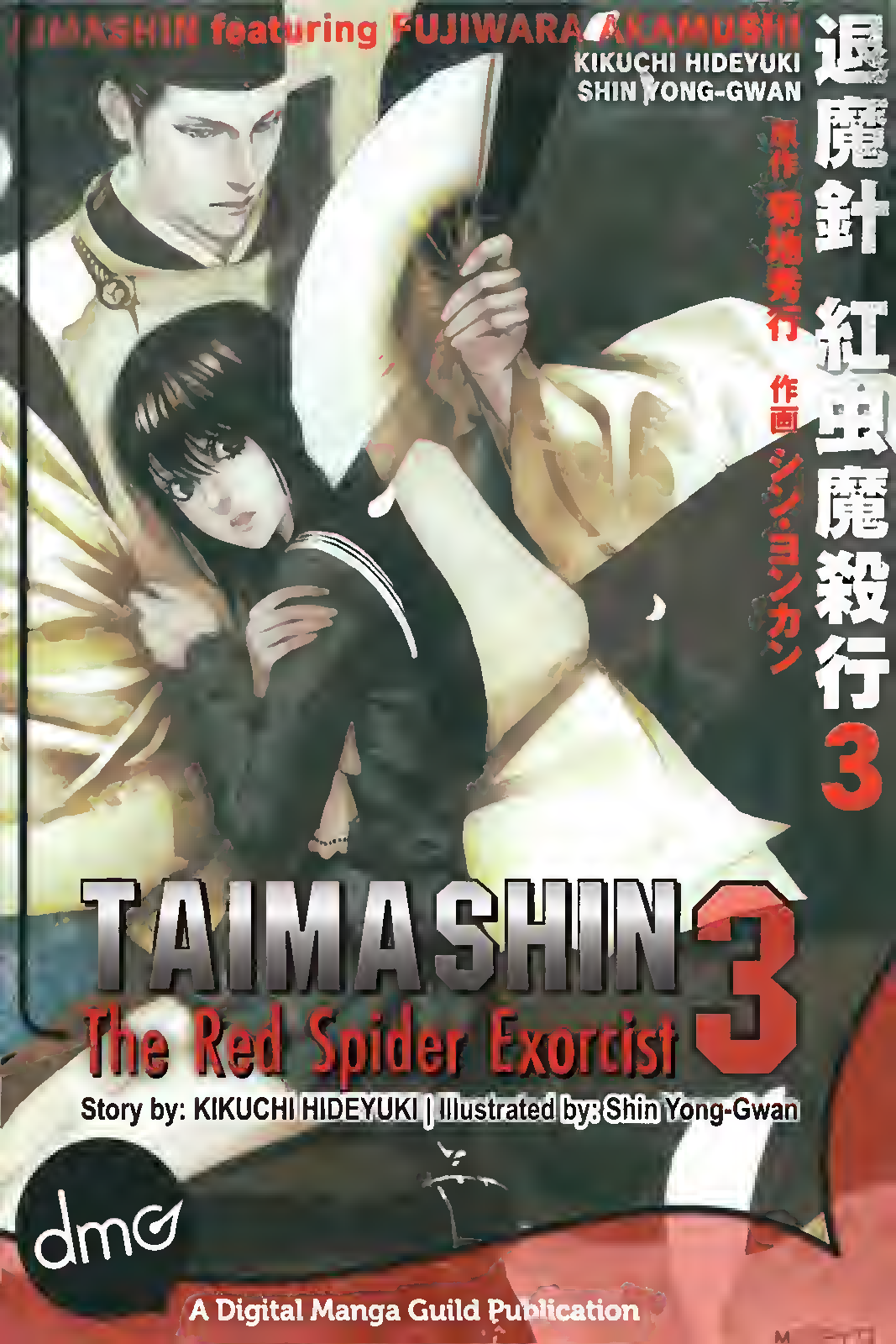
TAIMASHIN featuring FUJIWARA AKAMUSHI
KIKUCHI HIDEYUKI
SHIN YONG-GWAN
退魔針 紅虫魔殺行 3
原作 菊地秀行 作画 シン・ヨンカン
TAIMASHIN 3
The Red Spider Exorcist
Story by: KIKUCHI HIDEYUKI | Illustrated by: Shin Yong-Gwan
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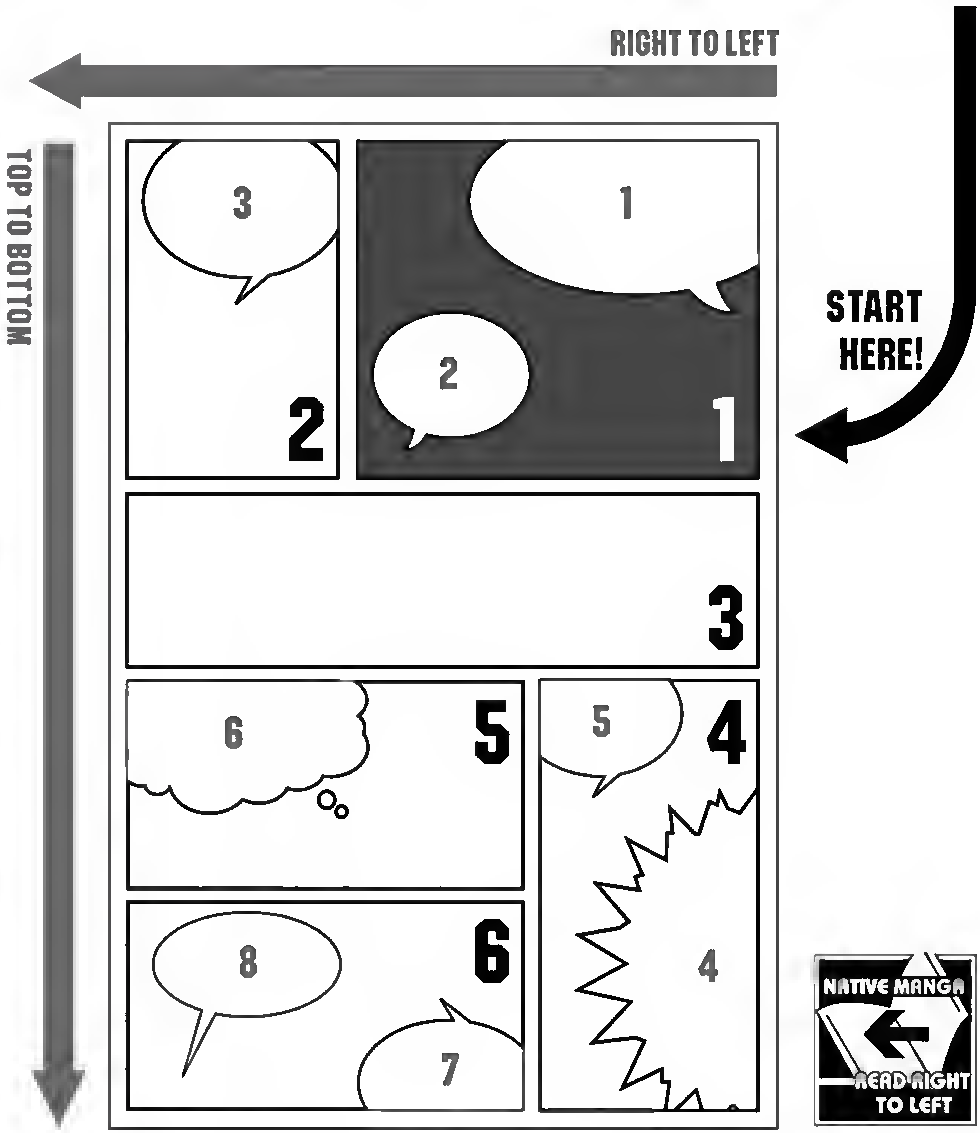
**READ EACH PANEL
FROM RIGHT TO LEFT, TOP TO BOTTOM
SEE HOW IT'S DONE BELOW!**



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TAIMASHIN: THE RED SPIDER EXORCIST 3

TAIMASHIN 3
The Red Spider Exorcist

Digital Manga Guild presents

Story by: KIKUCHI HIDEYUKI | Illustrated by: Shin Yong-Gwan

CH 12: MELODY OF SEALING 003
CH 13: CURSED LINEAGE 037
CH 14: BOX OF SECRETS 069
CH 15: COUNTLESS FACES 099
CH 16: DEMON DEATH WEB 129
CH 17: NIGHT, THEN MORNING 161

Translation | Duane Johnson
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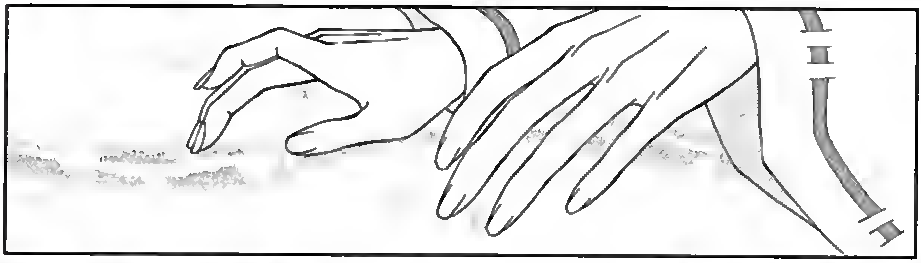
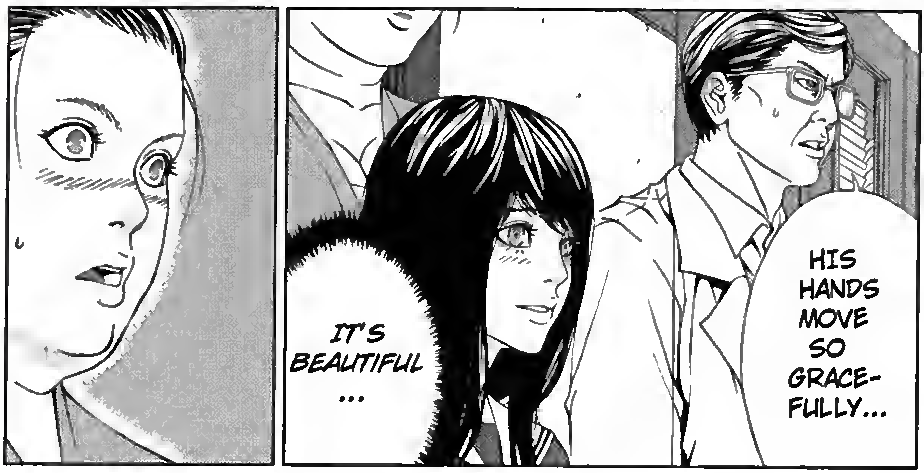
十二、封魔の旋律

GUH!
AUGH!
MY NAME IS AKAMUSHI FUJIWARA.
I'M GOING TO TREAT YOUR WIFE FOR YOU.

NOW THEN.




IT'S BEAUTIFUL ...
HIS HANDS MOVE SO GRACE-FULLY...

IF HE TOUCHED ME LIKE THAT, I'D COME IN NO TIME FLAT...!

FWOO
OOMP
SSHH

PLAP
SHE'S BLEEDING!! DO SOMETHING!!

ZE

...WH-WHAT'S HE DOING?
IT-IT VANISHED.
BUT...HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE LAUGHING FACE?! AND EVEN WHERE IT WAS?! WHO ARE YOU?!
THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN AN UGLY FACE ON YOUR WIFE'S... YES, RIGHT AROUND HERE.

I'VE HAD MANY ENCOUNTERS IN ALL THE COUNTRIES I'VE VISITED, EVEN SOME WITH THE SUPERNATURAL...
AKAMUSHI FUJIWARA, ITINERANT PERFORMER.
COME FORTH.
FLICK

BLORP
BLORP

LAUGHING FACE!!!
IT'S THE ...
IGH!
THAT'S RIGHT. NICE TO MEET YOU, MISS. HEEHEEHEE HEEHEE!

I HAVE NOTHING LIKE THAT!! EEHEE HEEHEE HEE!!
GRUDGE ?
WHAT ARE YOU?! WHY DO YOU HAUNT US?! YOU POSSESSED GRANDDADDY, AND NOW MOM... WHAT GRUDGE DO YOU HAVE AGAINST US?!
?
THIS SORT ESSENTIALLY HAS NO REASON TO POSSESS HUMANS.
IT JUST HAPPENS, AS IT WERE.

DIFFERENT ?
HEEHEE! WHAT I MEAN IS, THERE'S A REASON.
HEEHEE! BUT...THE SITUATION'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT WITH THIS HOUSEHOLD.
...
THAT'S THE WAY OF IT, LOVELY MAN...

HEE HEEHEE ...HEE !
WELL THEN, LET US HEAR IT.
YEEE!!
IGH!!

...NO, I SUSPECT HE'S NOT HUMAN.
IT'S FRIGHTENED ... THE LAUGHING FACE'S SCARED OF A HUMAN SMILE!!
HE'S MORE LIKE THE LAUGHING FACE THAN HE IS US...
TELL ME. WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THIS HOUSEHOLD TO HAUNT?

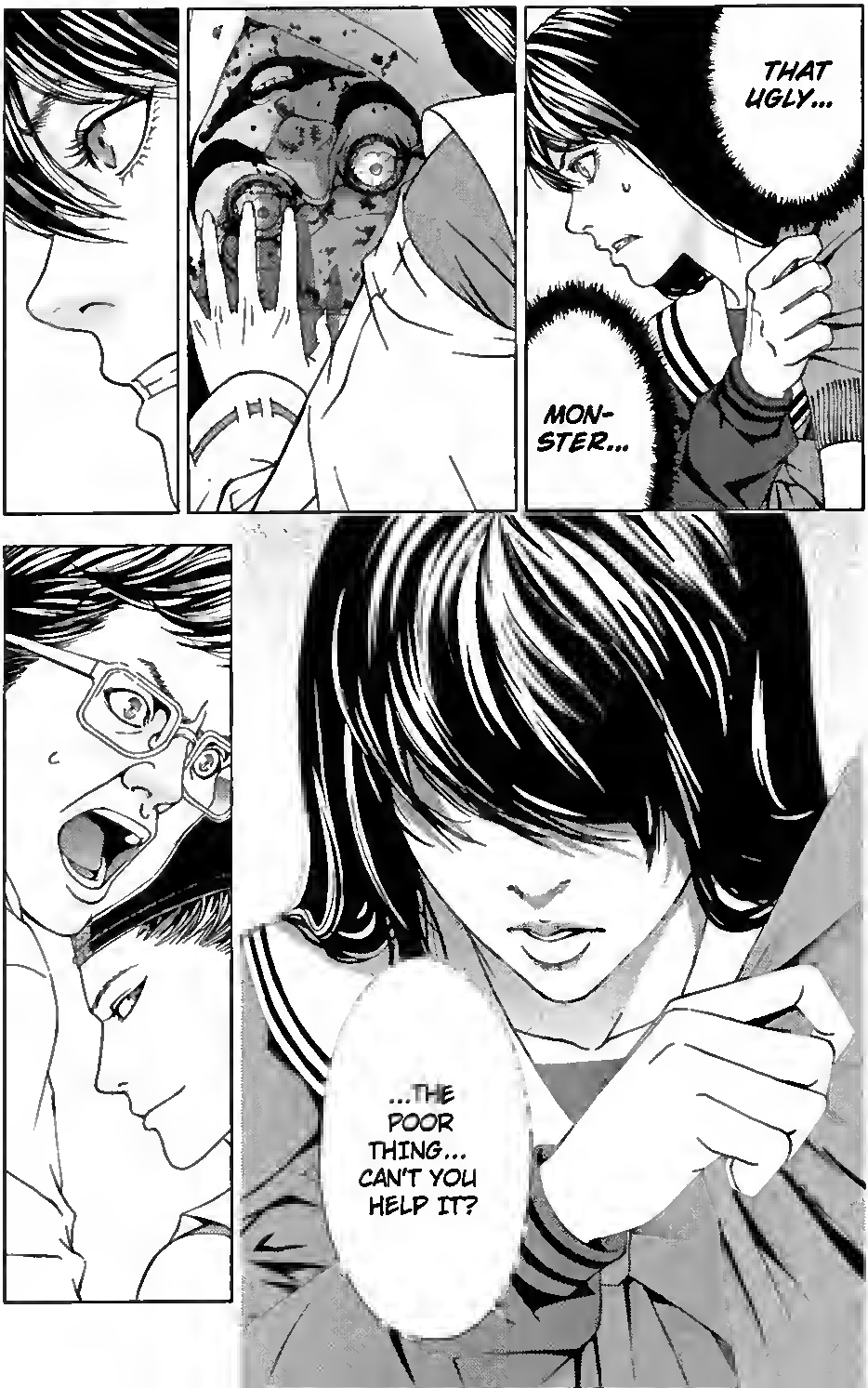
YOU'RE MORE ONE OF US THAN ONE OF THE HUMANS... MMN!
A-ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD BE DOING THIS?! I CAN TELL...
FWIT
FWIT
FWIT
FWIT

PLOP
PLOP
THE LAUGHING FACE'S MOUTH IS STITCHING SHUT?!
FLING

YOU SHOULD HAVE SIMPLY ANSWERED THE QUESTION.
MMM... MMMMMM...!
YOU WON'T LAUGH ANYMORE, EITHER.
THE LAUGHING FACE IS TREMBLING ...
A BIT MORE, AND THAT MOUTH WILL BE CLOSED FOREVER.
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO BREATHE, NOR WILL EVEN A GRAIN OF WHEAT REACH YOUR STOMACH.
WHAT WILL... MM...YOU DO... WITH ME...?
MMM...! WHO... ARE... YOU...?

TELL ME, WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH YOU?
GET RID OF IT!

I'LL REWARD YOU FOR IT!! GET RID OF THIS MONSTER AND RELEASE MY FAMILY FROM ITS CURSE!!
VERY WELL... WHAT ABOUT YOU?
JUST KILL THAT UGLY MONSTER !!


THAT UGLY...
MON-STER...
...THE POOR THING... CAN'T YOU HELP IT?

WELL SAID, MY HOPEFUL BRIDE. HOW KIND AT HEART YOU ARE.
NO...!!
HOW-EVER...
YOU HEARD WHAT MY BRIDE SAID.
HMM... I'LL TELL YOU, BEFORE YOU DIE.
I DON'T APPROVE OF THOSE WHO ARE THE "SAME" AS ME.
MMM!!
MM-WHY?! WHY DO YOU HELP THE HUMANS?!

I'D JUST AS SOON BE THE ONLY THING THIS WORLD FEARS THAT GOES BUMP IN THE NIGHT.

JUST FOR THAT?!!
EVERY EVIL SPIRIT IS GONE IN THAT KOREA PLACE. WHEN I BROUGHT DOWN THE LAST ONE, THE SEA BREEZE TOLD ME YOU AND YOURS WERE HERE... THAT'S WHY I RETURNED.
FWIT
FWIT
FWIT
FWIT
FWIT
FLICK
WELL, I DO HAVE ONE OTHER GOAL, BUT FIRST I'M GOING TO GET RID OF THE FOOLS WHO WOULD CALL ME "ONE OF US."
MNNNG !!

FWIT
FWIT
FWIT
FWIT
NEXT COME YOUR EYES.
ITS EYES ARE SEWING SHUT TOO?!
CLING

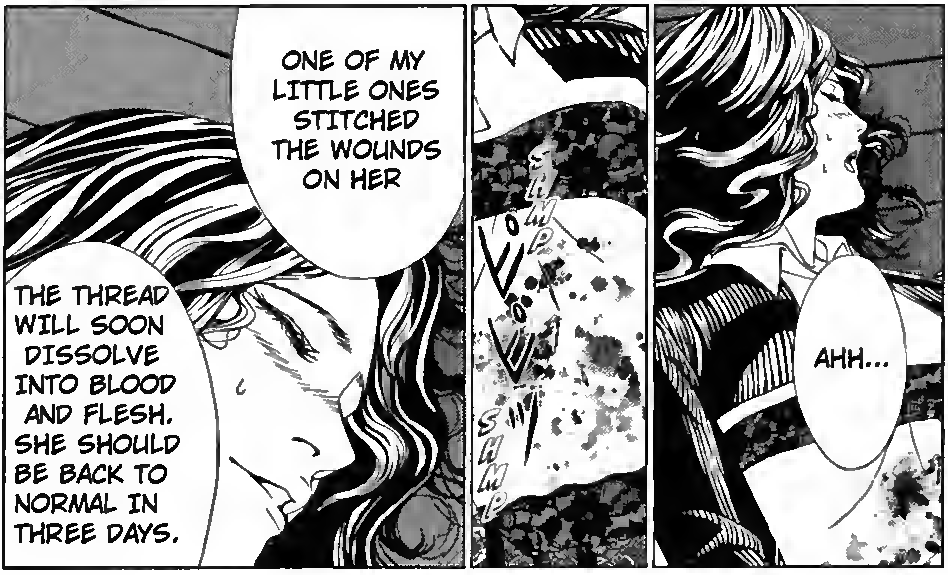
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, THAT SHOULD BRING ABOUT ITS DEATH.
SSSSS

WHOA
...

SHIVE
SHIVE

HAH
HAH

WHAT'LL ... WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO MOM?
YOU WANT TO HELP HER TOO?
O-OF COURSE I DO!!
THIS GUY REALLY IS WEIRD!!
?


ONE OF MY LITTLE ONES STITCHED THE WOUNDS ON HER
THE THREAD WILL SOON DISSOLVE INTO BLOOD AND FLESH. SHE SHOULD BE BACK TO NORMAL IN THREE DAYS.
SLURP
SLURP
AHH...

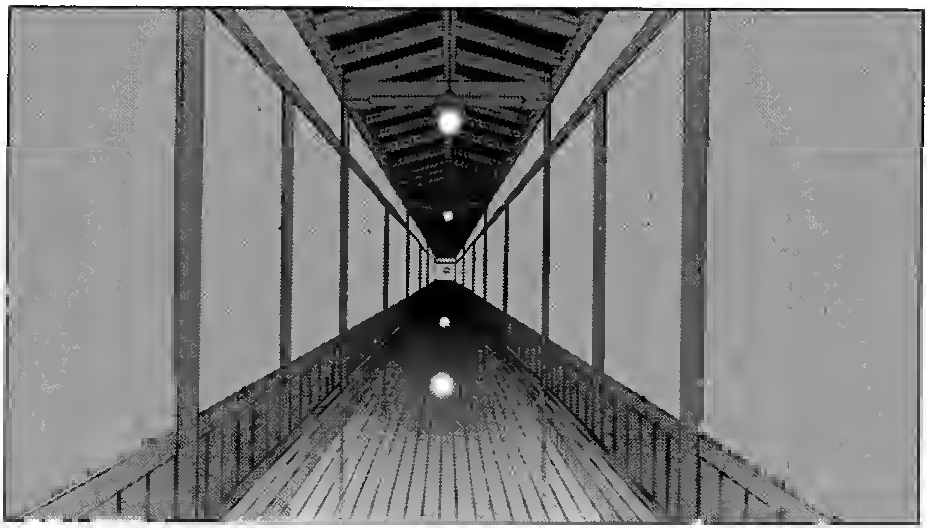
CAN YOU WALK?
Y-YES, SIR.
YES, SIR...
THEN GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM. YOU NEVER SAW ANY OF THIS, UNDERSTOOD?
I IMAGINE SHE'LL SOON WANT SOME TIME OFF.

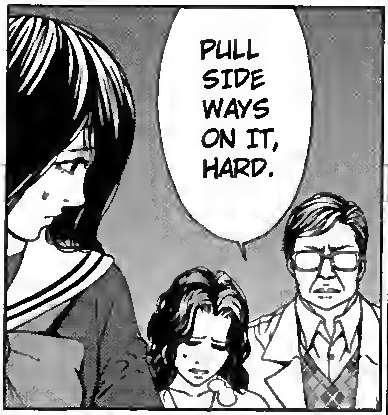
TELL HER. I WANT TO KNOW TOO.
WHY DO THESE THINGS HAPPEN TO MY FAMILY? DAD, TELL ME.
THE TIME HAS COME...TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE KUROSAWA CURSE AND HOW TERRIBLE IT IS ...
ALRIGHT, I'LL TELL YOU.

THE LAUGHING FACE WON'T LET YOU CLAIM YOU NEVER KNEW.
BUT HEAR THIS NOW, MIDORI, AND YOU, AKAMUSHI... ONCE YOU'VE HEARD IT, THERE'S NO TURNING BACK.

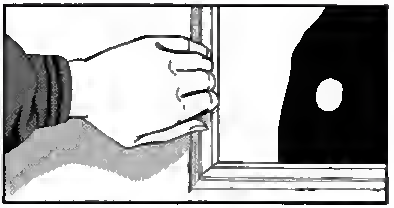
ゴオオオオ
HONNN

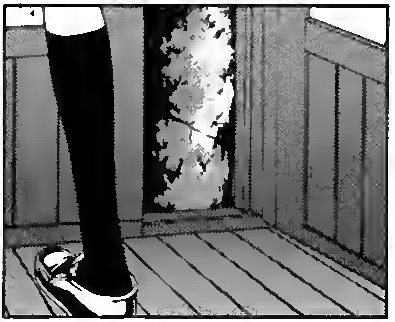
十三、呪いの系譜

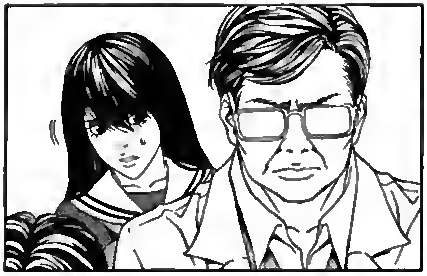



PULL SIDE WAYS ON IT, HARD.

RIGHT THERE, MIDORI ...







I NEVER KNEW THIS STAIRCASE WAS HERE ...

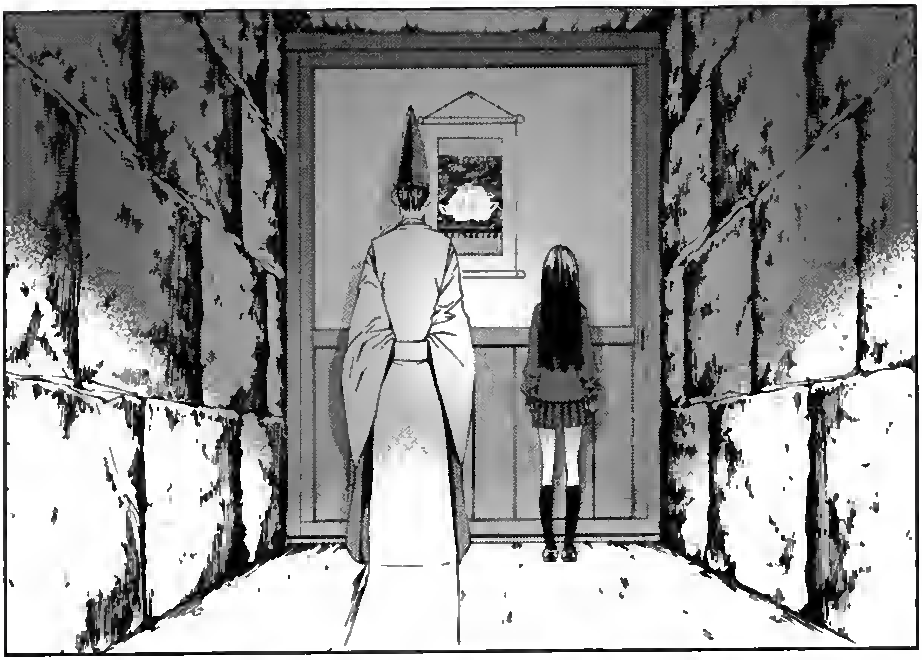
FOLLOW US.

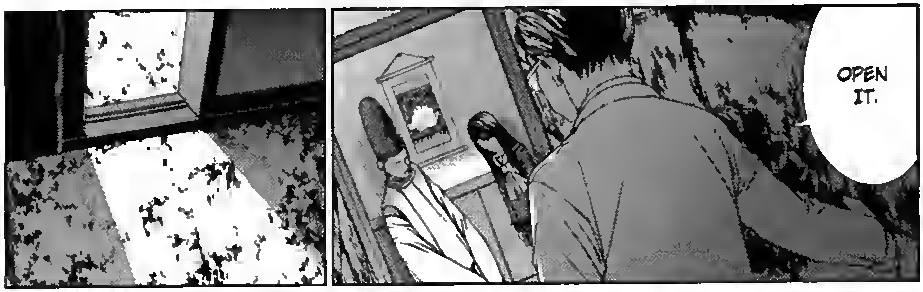
I'LL SHOW YOU THE COUNTER-MEASURES THE HEADS OF THE FAMILY CURSED BY THE LAUGHING FACE HAVE SPENT A CENTURY RESEARCHING.
IT SMELLS MUSTY ...
WHAT YOU SMELL ARE YACHICHOUSOU, KIJITAIMA, NYOGENKOU...

A PARADE OF ANCIENT MEDICINAL PLANTS.
IT'S MORE THAN OBVIOUS YOU'RE NO TRAVELING PERFORMER. WHO ARE YOU?
YOU ASK THAT QUESTION A LOT.

UMM... I'VE BEEN DYING TO ASK THIS. HAVE YOU LIVED ABROAD A LONG TIME...?
...INDEED I HAVE.
WOW! THAT'S FANTASTIC! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?!

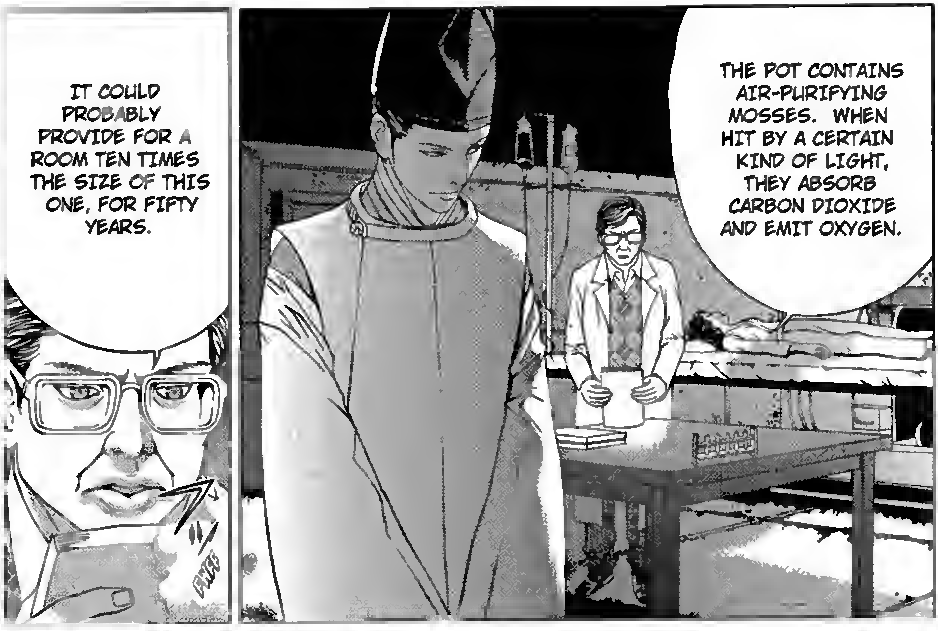
PLEASE TELL ME!
...
ARGEN-TINA.
OHH! ♡
ALSO PERU, CHILE, GUATEMALA, COLOMBIA, BRAZIL... BEFORE THIS COUNTRY, I WAS IN KOREA.
WILD! LOTS OF PEOPLE GO TO PLACES LIKE PARIS AND NEW YORK, BUT NOT MANY GO SO MANY PLACES IN SOUTH AMERICA!
IF YOU SAY SO.

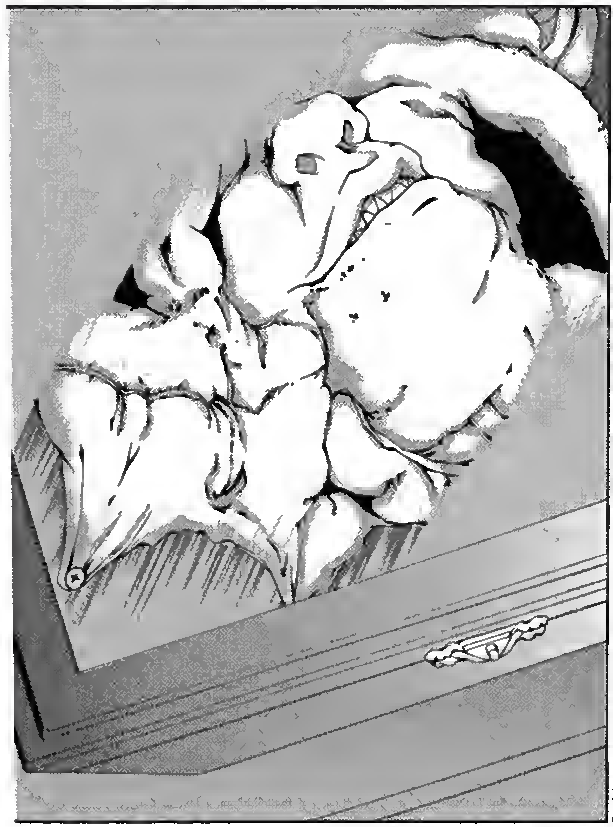



OPEN IT.

LOOK BEHIND THE SHELVES.
QUICK
THAT'S SOME STENCH.
WHAT DO YOU DO FOR VENTILATION?

WHOA! WHAT'S THIS?!


IT COULD PROBABLY PROVIDE FOR A ROOM TEN TIMES THE SIZE OF THIS ONE, FOR FIFTY YEARS.
THE POT CONTAINS AIR-PURIFYING MOSSES. WHEN HIT BY A CERTAIN KIND OF LIGHT, THEY ABSORB CARBON DIOXIDE AND EMIT OXYGEN.

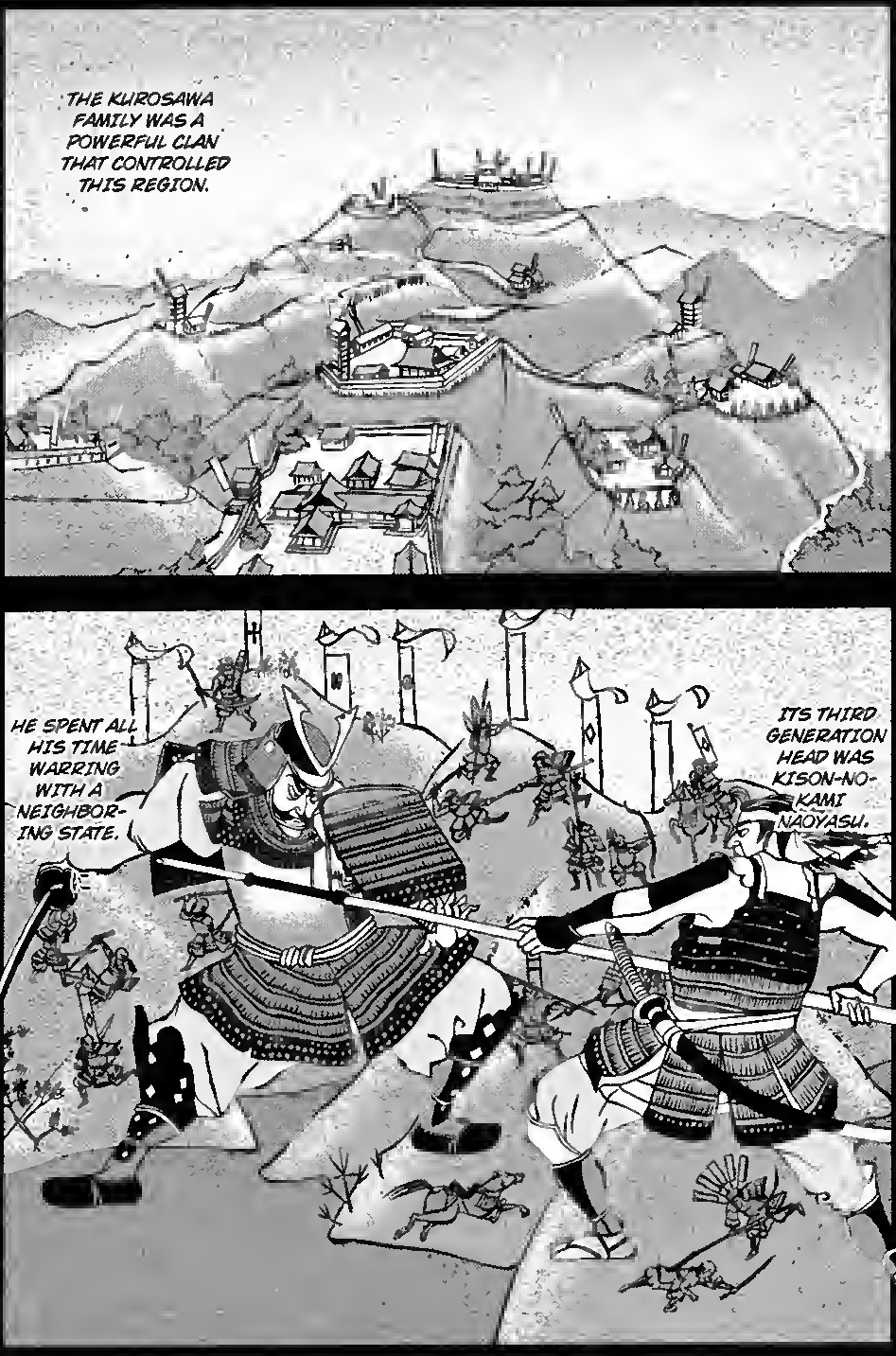


WHAT AN IMPRESSIVE HOUSEHOLD.

IT APPEARS YOUR ANCESTORS CONTINUED TO DEVELOP MEDICINES DESPITE THE LAUGHING FACE ATTACKS.

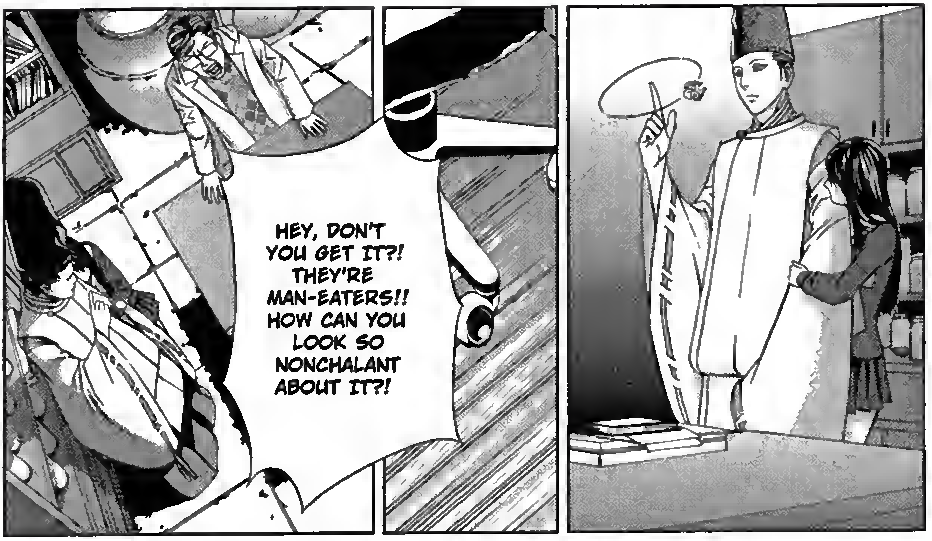
WHY IS YOUR BLOODLINE CURSED?
SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED ABOUT FIVE HUNDRED YEARS AGO...DURING THE WARRING STATES...

WH-
WHAT'S
WRONG?
NOTHING.
CONTINUE.
IT WAS THE
WARRING
STATES
PERIOD,
ABOUT FIVE
HUNDRED
YEARS
AGO...


THE KUROSAWA FAMILY WAS A POWERFUL CLAN THAT CONTROLLED THIS REGION.
HE SPENT ALL HIS TIME WARRING WITH A NEIGHBOR-ING STATE.
ITS THIRD GENERATION HEAD WAS KISON-NO-KAMI NAOYASU.

AT THE TIME, PRISONERS WOULD BE SOLD AS SLAVES TO OTHER LANDS, BUT THESE WERE THE EXCEPTIONS, AS KISON-NO-KAMI NAOYASU KUROSAWA WOULD ALWAYS HAVE THEM BEHEADED.
AFTER WINNING A BATTLE, THERE WOULD ALWAYS BE ONE OR TWO PRISONERS WHO DID NOTHING BUT SMILE.
THIS WAS BECAUSE, IF IGNORED, THE SMILING WOULD SPREAD TO THE OTHER PRISONERS AND EVEN THE SAMURAI GUARDING THEM.
TREES, GRASS, STONES, DOGS, SNAKES. IT MADE NO DIFFERENCE.
ON THE CONTRARY,
THEY WOULD KEEP SMILING, AND BEGIN TO CONSUME ANYTHING NEARBY.

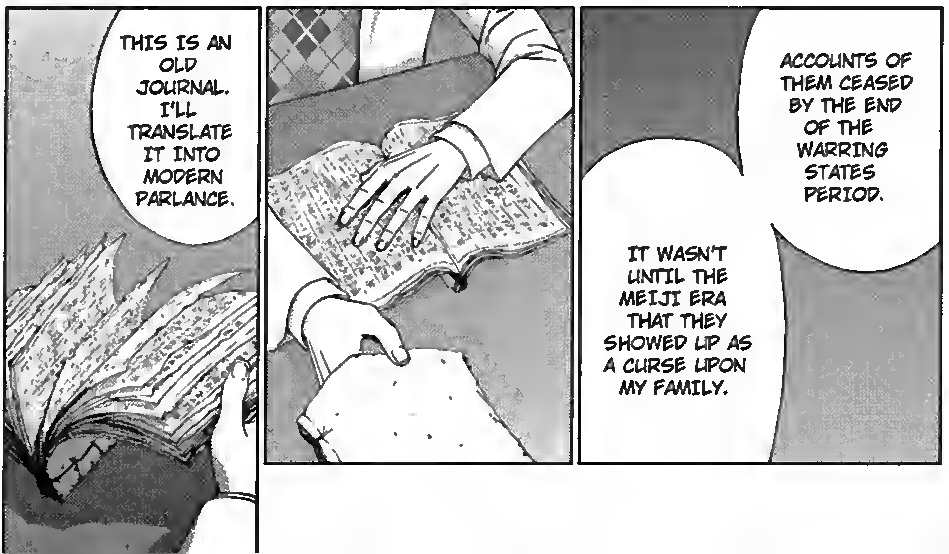
HUMANS WERE ALSO ATTACKED.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND? THE LAUGHING FACE EATS PEOPLE TOO!

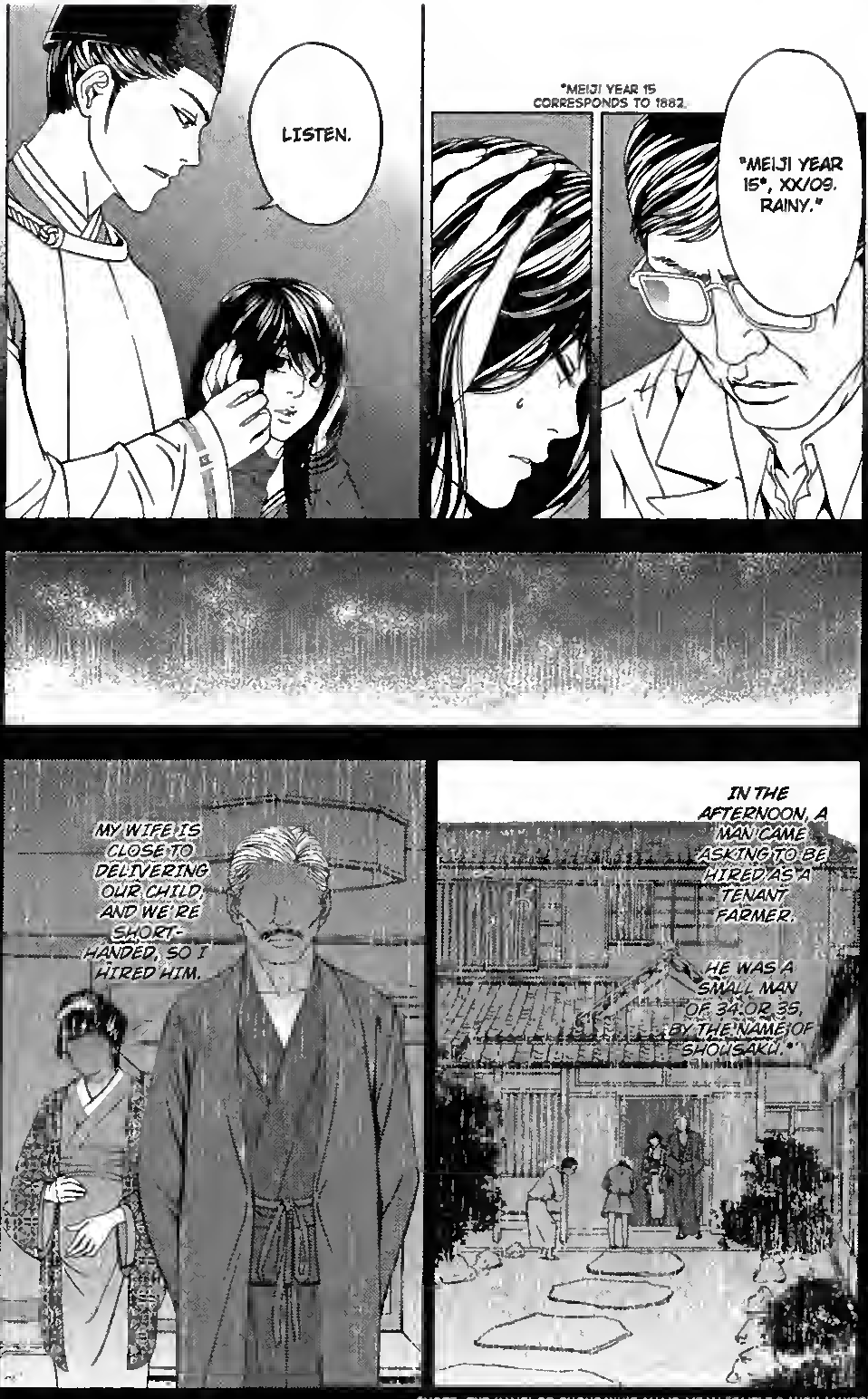

HEY, DON'T YOU GET IT?! THEY'RE MAN-EATERS!! HOW CAN YOU LOOK SO NONCHALANT ABOUT IT?!

...WHAT'S SO STRANGE ABOUT MONSTERS EATING HUMANS?
YOU'RE AN ODD MAN. CONTINUE.

THIS REGION IS THE ONLY ONE THAT STILL CONTAINS RECORDS OF THE LAUGHING FACE.
...

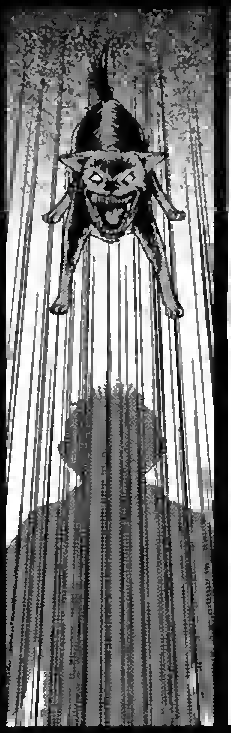
THOSE WARRING STATES PRISONERS WERE MOST LIKELY DESCENDANTS OF ITS SURVIVORS.
ACCORDING TO RESEARCH DONE BY THE KUROSAWAS OVER GENERATIONS, A GROTESQUE CLAN THAT WAS HERE IN ANCIENT TIMES WAS APPARENTLY SLAUGHTERED BY ITS NEIGHBORING CLANS.

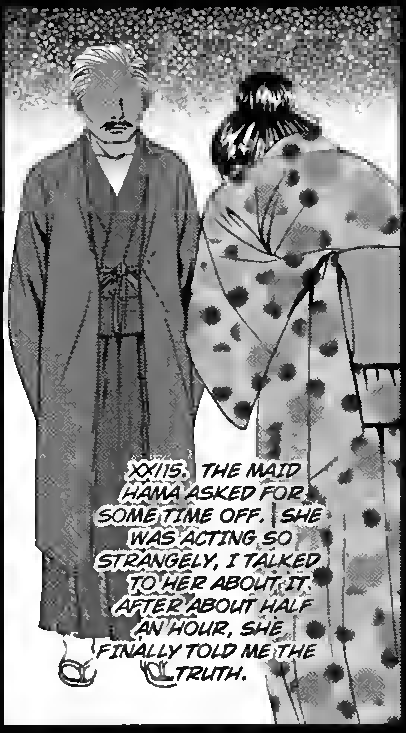

THIS IS AN OLD JOURNAL. I'LL TRANSLATE IT INTO MODERN PARLANCE.
ACCOUNTS OF THEM CEASED BY THE END OF THE WARRING STATES PERIOD.
IT WASN'T UNTIL THE MEIJI ERA THAT THEY SHOWED UP AS A CURSE UPON MY FAMILY.


LISTEN.
*MEIJI YEAR 15 CORRESPONDS TO 1882.
"MEIJI YEAR 15", XX/09. RAINY."
MY WIFE IS CLOSE TO DELIVERING OUR CHILD AND WE'RE SHORT-HANDED, SO I HIRED HIM.
IN THE AFTERNOON, A MAN CAME ASKING TO BE HIRED AS A TENANT FARMER.
HE WAS A SMALL MAN OF 34 OR 35, BY THE NAME OF SHOUSAKU.*

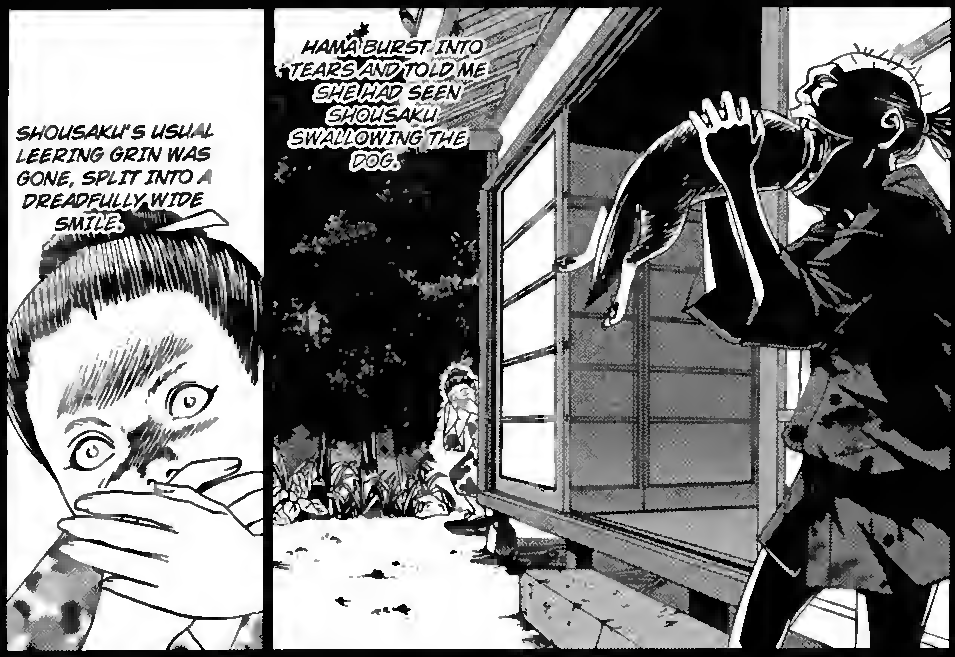
*NOTE- THE KANJI OF SHOUSAKU'S NAME MEAN "SMILE/LAUGH MAKER".

THE ONLY THINGS THAT BOTHERED ME WERE THAT THE ENTIRE TIME HE WAS AT THE DOOR, OUR DOG IN THE GARDEN KEPT BARKING FURIOUSLY, AND THAT JUST BEFORE HE ARRIVED, DARK CLOUDS SPREAD ACROSS THE PARTIALLY CLOUDY SKY, MAKING IT LOOK LIKE NIGHTTIME OUTSIDE.

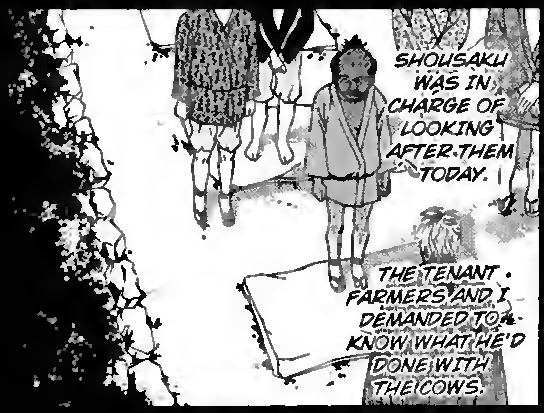



XX/15. THE MAID HAMA ASKED FOR SOME TIME OFF. SHE WAS ACTING SO STRANGELY, I TALKED TO HER ABOUT IT. AFTER ABOUT HALF AN HOUR, SHE FINALLY TOLD ME THE TRUTH.

XX/12. CLOUDY. THE TENANT FARMER SENSUKE SUGIZA TOLD ME HE WISHED TO QUIT. I ASKED HIM WHY, BUT HE WAS HESITANT TO ANSWER. THIS MAKES FIVE NOW, AND ALL OF THEM HAVE BEEN SINCE SHOUSAKU ARRIVED.

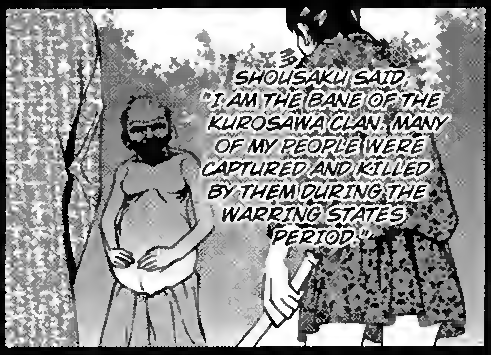

SHOUSAKU'S USUAL LEERING GRIN WAS GONE, SPLIT INTO A DREADFULLY WIDE SMILE.
HAMA BURST INTO TEARS AND TOLD ME SHE HAD SEEN SHOUSAKU SWALLOWING THE DOG.

THAT WAS ALL HAMA MANAGED TO SAY BEFORE SHE FAINTED.

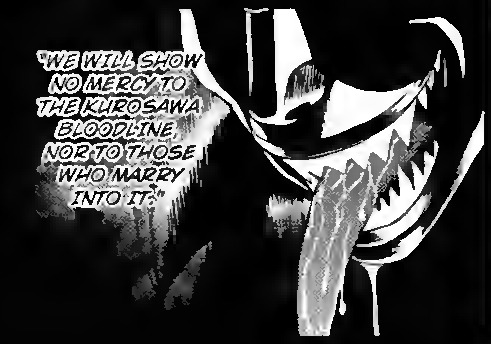

SHOUSAKU WAS IN CHARGE OF LOOKING AFTER THEM TODAY.
THE TENANT FARMERS AND I DEMANDED TO KNOW WHAT HE'D DONE WITH THE COWS.

XX 29, CLOUDY. TWO HEAD OF CATTLE HAVE GONE MISSING FROM THE COW SHED.

HIS RESPONSE WAS, "I ATE THEM."


SHOUSAKU SAID, "I AM THE BANE OF THE KUROSAWA CLAN. MANY OF MY PEOPLE WERE CAPTURED AND KILLED BY THEM DURING THE WARRING STATES PERIOD."

WHEN WE QUESTIONED HIM FURTHER, HE UNDRESSED PARTIALLY AND INDICATED HIS POTBELLY.


"WE WILL SHOW NO MERCY TO THE KUROSAWA BLOODLINE, NOR TO THOSE WHO MARRY INTO IT."

ONCE HE SAID THIS, THE SURFACE OF HIS WHITE BELLY RIPPLED OMINOUSLY, AND EYEBALLS, A NOSE, AND A MOUTH WEARING A SATISFIED SMILE APPEARED.
THE TENANT FARMERS SEVERELY BEAT AND SLASHED HIM WITH THE RODS AND SICKLES THEY CARRIED, AND FINALLY KILLED HIM.
RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES, TWO OF THEM WERE DEVOURED BY THE HEAD'S GIANT MOUTH.

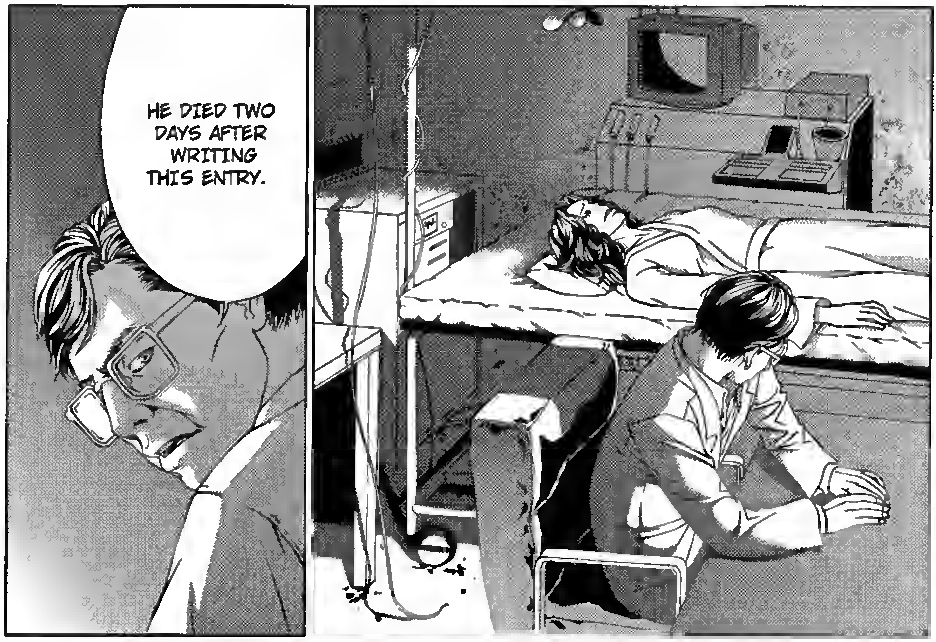
THE OTHER THREE EACH HAD SOME PART OF THEIR BODY EATEN--FOR TWO OF THEM IT WAS PART OF THEIR LEFT ARM.
A FARMER CAME TO TELL ME A WOODS OWNED BY THE KUROSAWA CLAN TO THE WEST OF THE VILLAGE HAD BEEN STRIPPED BARE.
XX/01. RAINY.

WHEN I HASTENED THERE URGENTLY, ALL I FOUND WAS A WILDERNESS. ALL THE TREES WERE GONE, ROOT AND BRANCH.
THERE HAD BEEN A BROAD GRIN ON HIS FACE.
WHEN I ASKED A LOCAL, SHE SAID SHE'D SEEN A MAN PROWLING AROUND THE WOODS SEVERAL EVENINGS PRIOR.

"I WONDER IF SHOUSAKU CONSUMED EVERY LAST TREE AND BLADE OF GRASS THERE.
AT THAT POINT, I COULDN'T HELP BUT FEEL A HAIR-RAISING SHIVER AND A SENSE OF RELIEF.

THE SHIVER WAS BECAUSE I WONDERED IF SHOUSAKU MIGHT HAVE DEVOURED NOT ONLY THE KUROSAWA CLAN BUT EVERY LIVING THING IN THIS WORLD HAD HE GONE UNCHECKED.
NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE RELIEF WAS BECAUSE WE HAD ALREADY DONE AWAY WITH SUCH A MONSTER."

"I INCINERATED SHOUSAKU'S CORPSE. I WILL OFFER NO FURTHER ACCOUNT OF THAT LAUGHING FACE."
THIS IS MY GREAT-GRAND-FATHER'S JOURNAL


HE DIED TWO DAYS AFTER WRITING THIS ENTRY.

THE VERY DAY HIS WIFE GAVE BIRTH

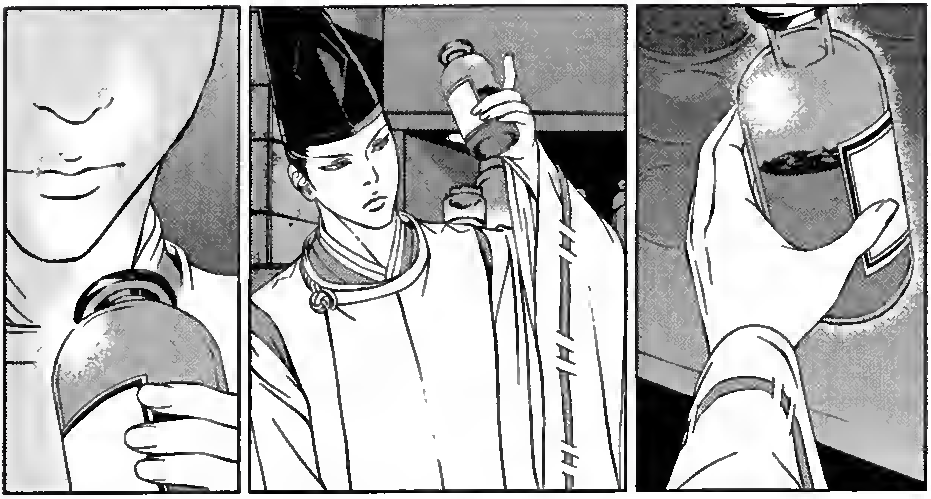
NO RECORD OF THIS EXISTS... BUT TELL ME!
DID MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER SEE THE LAUGHING FACE ON THE STOMACH OF HIS NEWBORN SON?!
IS EVERY MEMBER OF THE KUROSAWA FAMILY DOOMED TO BE HAUNTED BY THE LAUGHING FACE?!
LUNGE!!

14, BOX OF SECRETS

十四、秘密の箱

IS EVERY MEMBER OF THE KUROSAWA FAMILY DOOMED TO BE HAUNTED BY THE LAUGHING FACE?!
DID MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER SEE THE LAUGHING FACE ON THE STOMACH OF HIS NEWBORN SON?!
IS EVERY LAST ONE OF US...

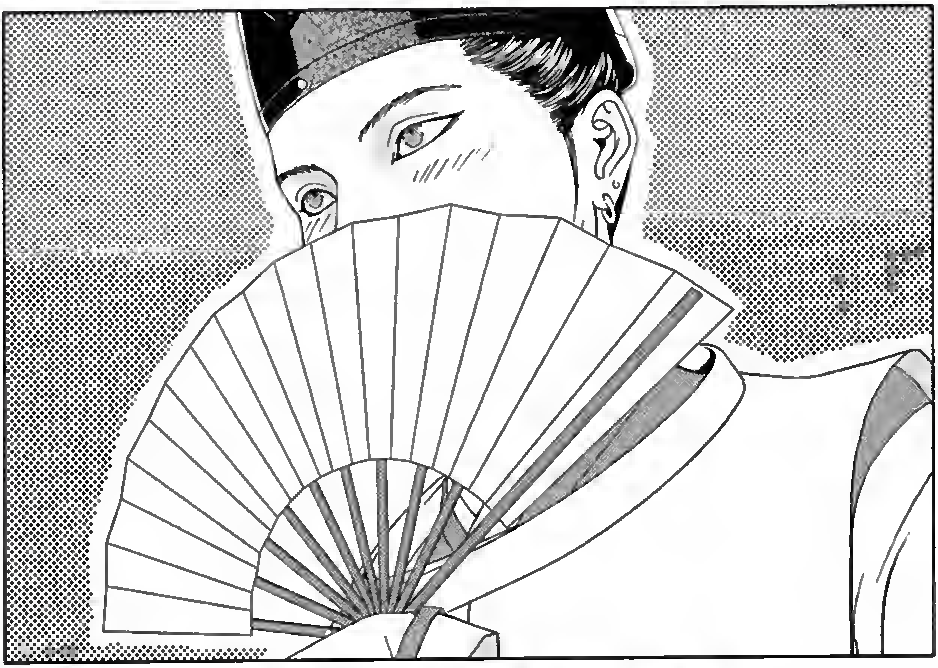
UNDOUBTEDLY.



KANSEISHOU...
IT'S EFFECTIVE AS A REMOVAL AGENT FOR ORDINARY POSSESSION PESTS. BUT UNLESS YOU MIX IN A MAIDEN'S BLOOD, IT HAS NO EFFECT ON MAJOR CREATURES. TO SAY NOTHING OF THE LAUGHING FACE.

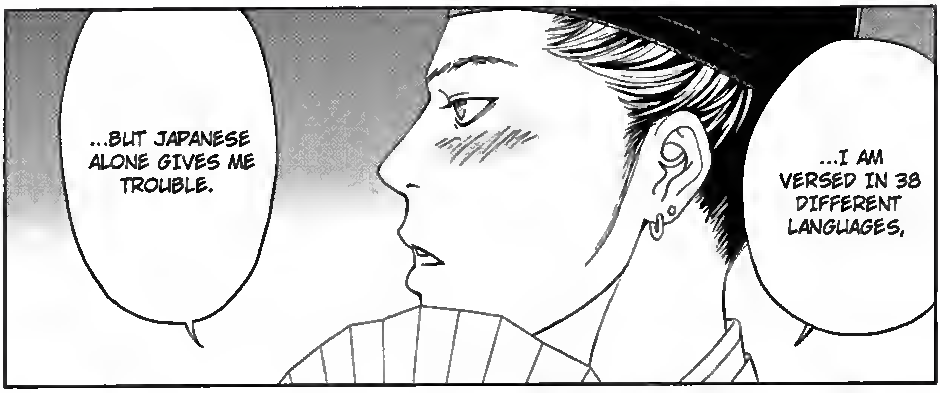
...
WE'RE USING THAT AS A GASTRO-INTESTINAL MEDICINE.

THOSE ARE POSTCARDS REQUESTING THE MEDICINE. SOMETHING I MIXED OVER THE COURSE OF MY EFFORTS TOWARDS ELIMINATING THE LAUGHING FACE TURNED OUT TO BE A WONDER GASTRO-INTESTINAL DRUG, OF ALL THINGS.
MY FAMILY CURRENTLY MAKES ITS LIVING SELLING IT.
AH!
?
READ THIS.
YOU COULD JUST READ IT YOURSELF.

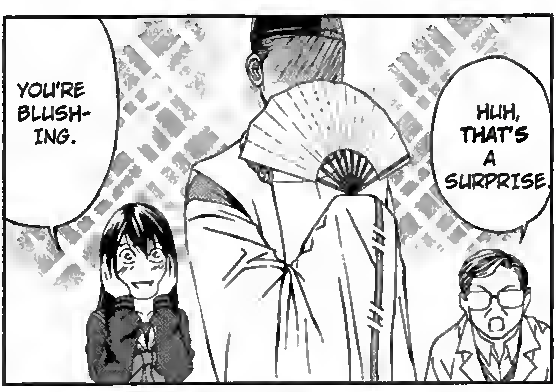


?

AKAMUSHI... DON'T TELL ME YOU CAN'T READ JAPANESE?


...I AM VERSED IN 38 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES,
...BUT JAPANESE ALONE GIVES ME TROUBLE.

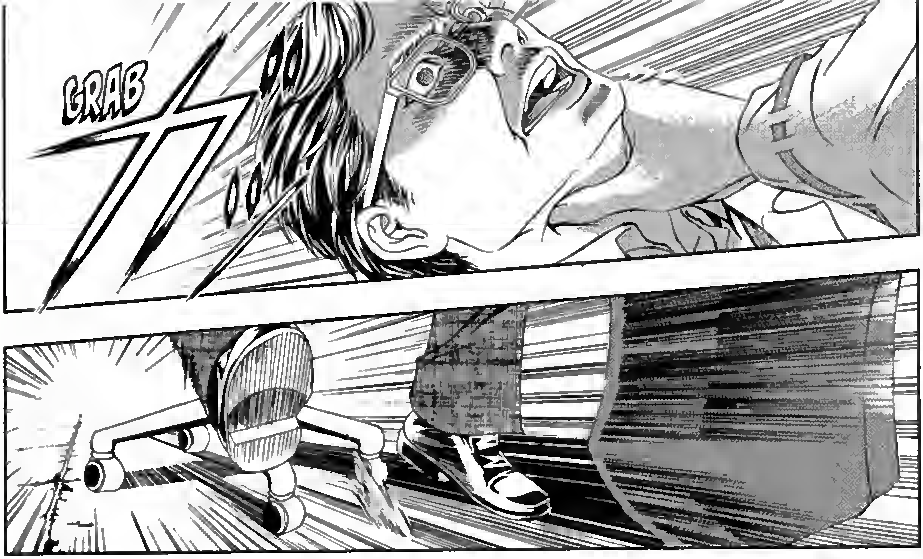
SHMP
FLINCH
ビクッ


HUH, THAT'S A SURPRISE.
YOU'RE BLUSHING.

O-OKAY!

WHY DON'T YOU READ IT?

...THIS ONE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE A MEDICINE REQUEST.
FROM MY WINDOW I CAN SEE MT. FUJI BEAUTIFULLY CAPPED WITH SNOW..."
"LET'S SEE... DEAR MR. KUROSAWA, TODAY IS A LUCKY DAY AND IT IS NOW CHERRY BLOSSOM SEASON. HOW HAVE YOU BEEN, SIR?
MHM, IT'S A SPLENDID CUSTOM.
IT'S SEASON'S GREETINGS. YOU TACK THEM ON BEFORE GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS.
WHAM
WHAT'S SPLENDID ABOUT IT? WHAT A BOTHER!


GRAB

GYEH!

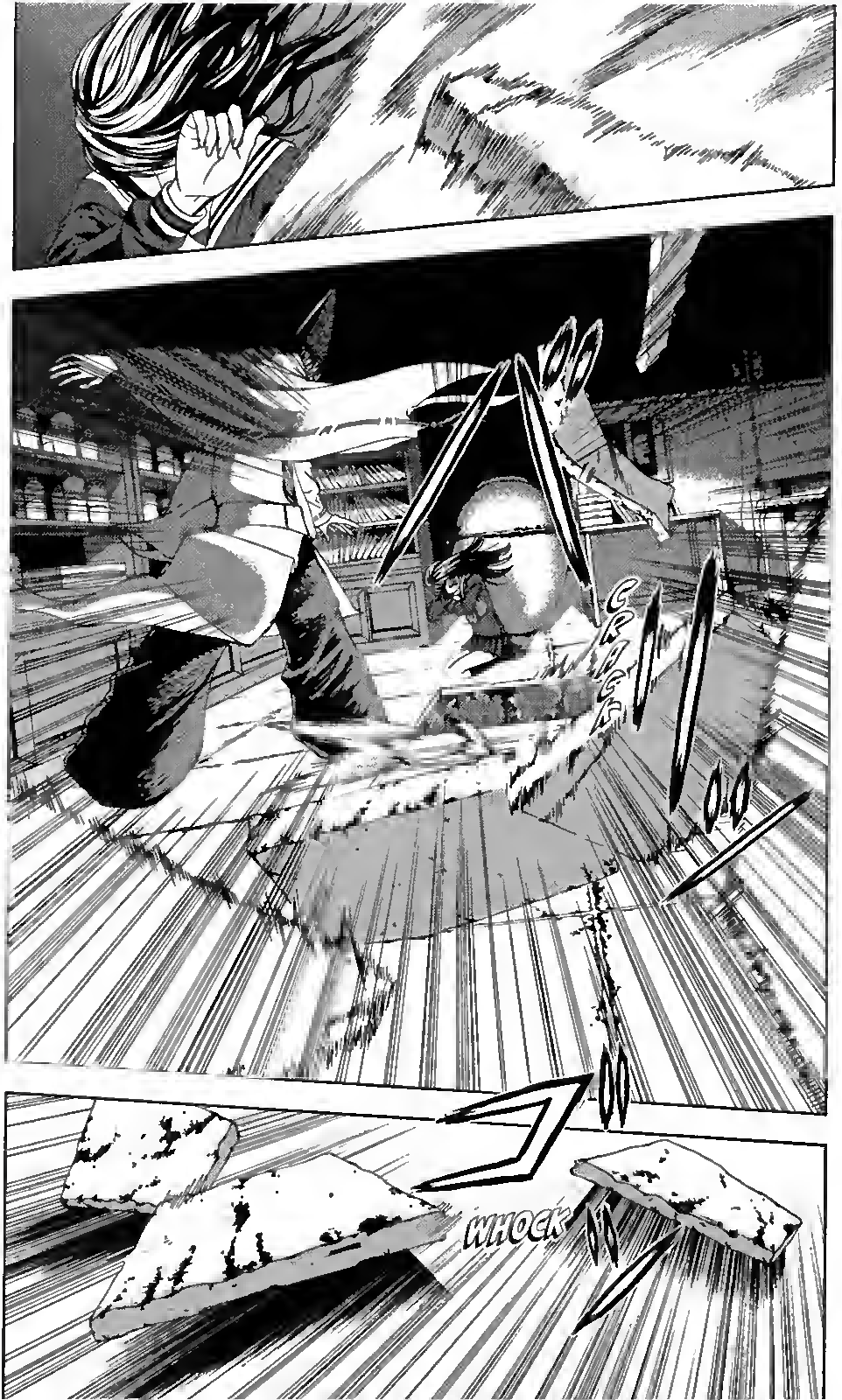
YOU SHOULD SAY IT'S A SPLENDID CUSTOM.
...WH-WHA?!
HNGG!
HGG...!
AKAMU-SHI!!
G-GOTCHA...
NINE TIMES OUT OF TEN, SAID BUSINESS WILL INVOLVE ASKING FOR SOMETHING UNREASONABLE. SEASON'S GREETINGS ARE NOT THERE TO CONCEAL THIS, BUT SO THAT THE OTHER PARTY WILL REALIZE YOUR EMBARRASSMENT IN ASKING.
EVER SINCE THE NARA AND HEIAN DAYS IN THIS COUNTRY, IT'S BEEN CONSIDERED VULGAR AND INDECENT TO SUDDENLY JUMP RIGHT TO THE BUSINESS AT HAND.

IT...IT'S A SPLENDID... CUSTOM...
SAY IT'S A SPLENDID CUSTOM.
GOFF GOFF
IT IS A SPLENDID CUSTOM!!

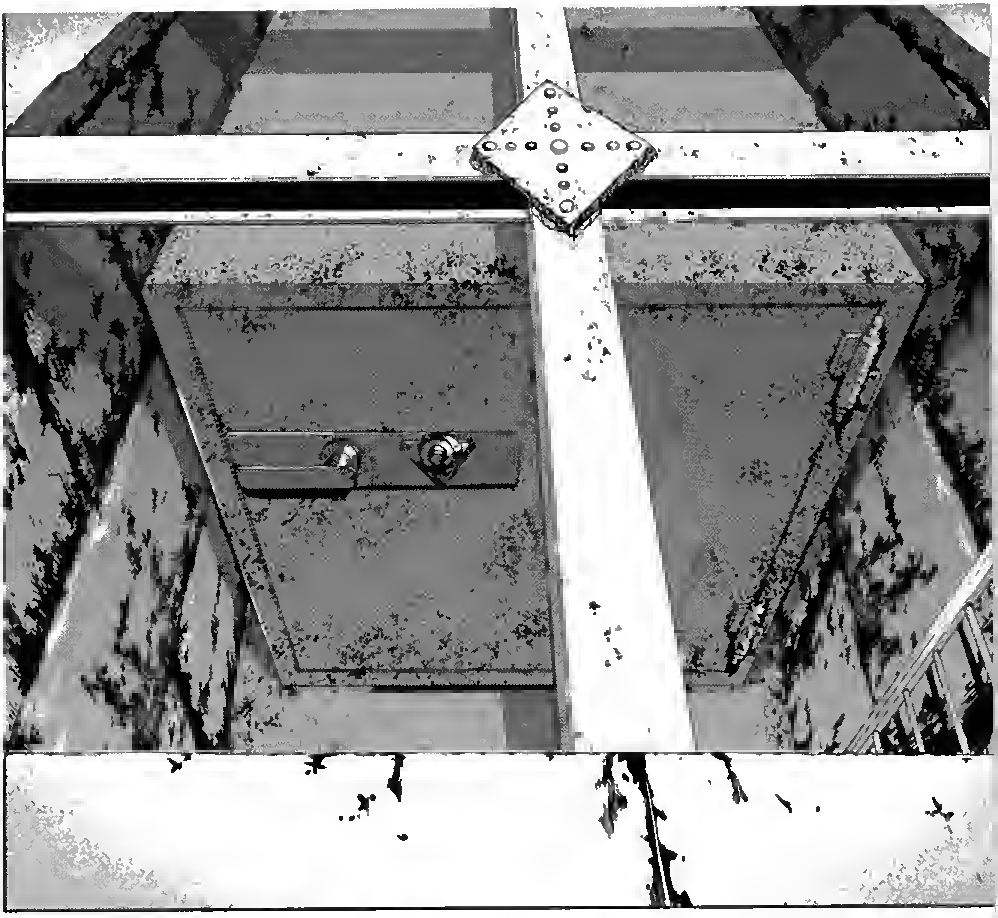
GEEZ... WHEN ARE YOU FROM, ANYWAY...?
CONTINUE READING.
EEK!
CRA

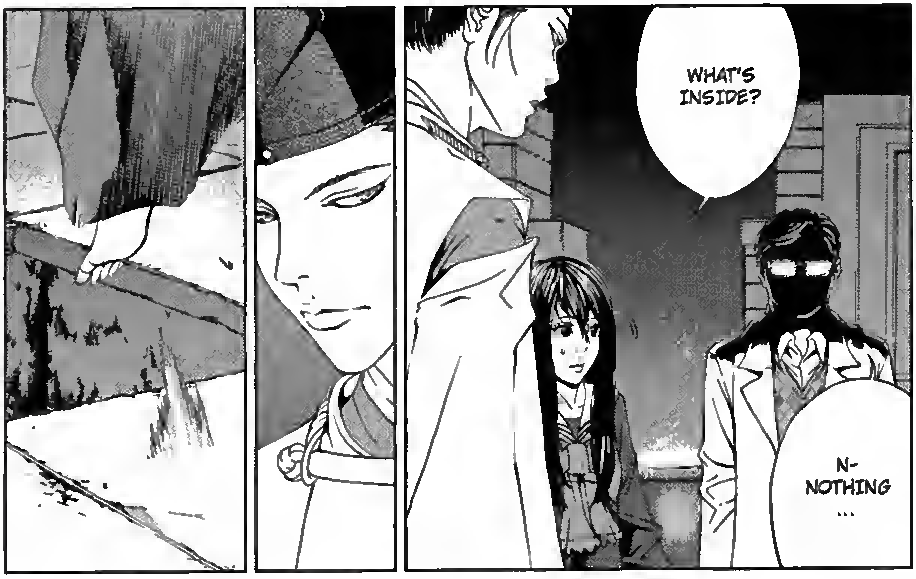
I'M NOT THE ONE WHO BROKE THE TABLE... UM, IT WAS PROBABLY WHEN YOU STEPPED ON IT...!!

YOU COULD SEE MY BUTT FOR A SECOND BUT IT WASN'T ME!!
N-NO!! IT WASN'T ME!!
TRUMP
TRUMP
TRUMP
NOOOO !!

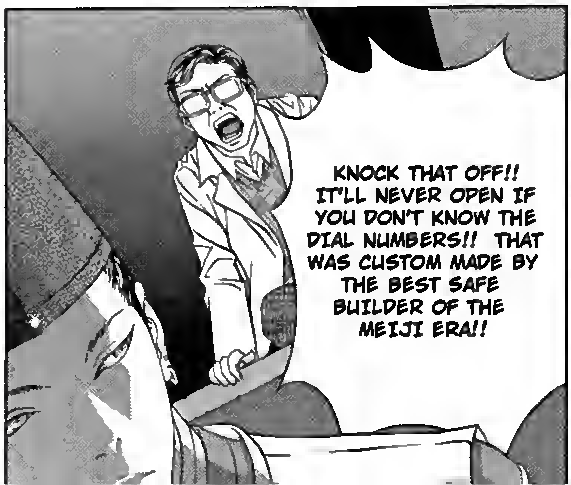

CRACK
WHOCK

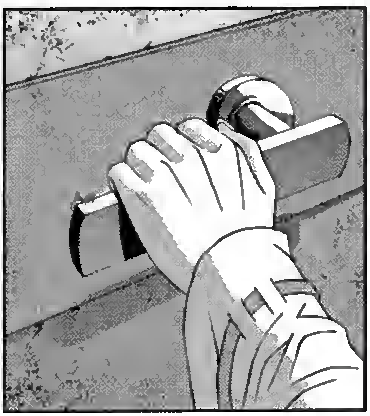
HUH? WHAT'S THAT...?

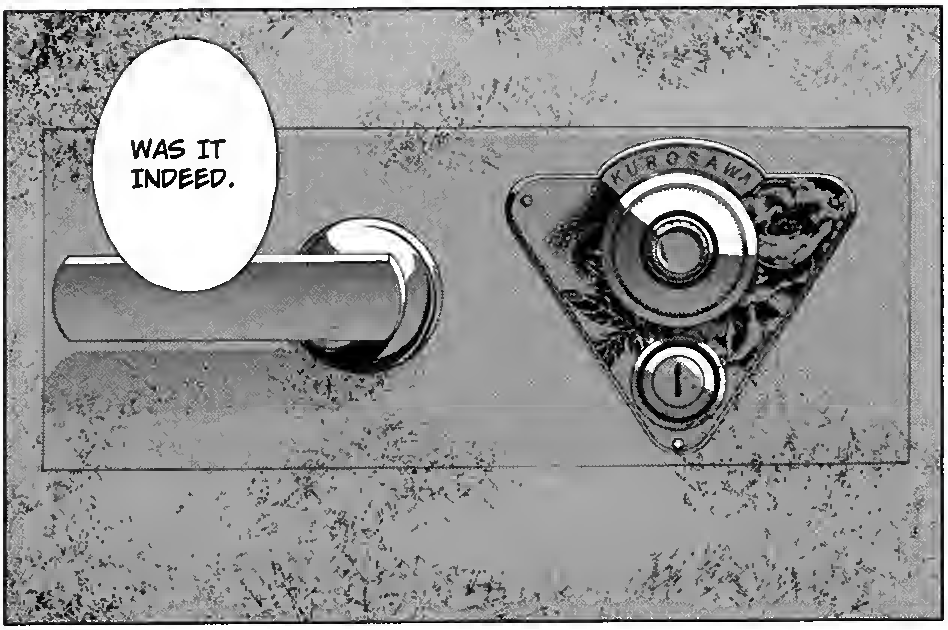


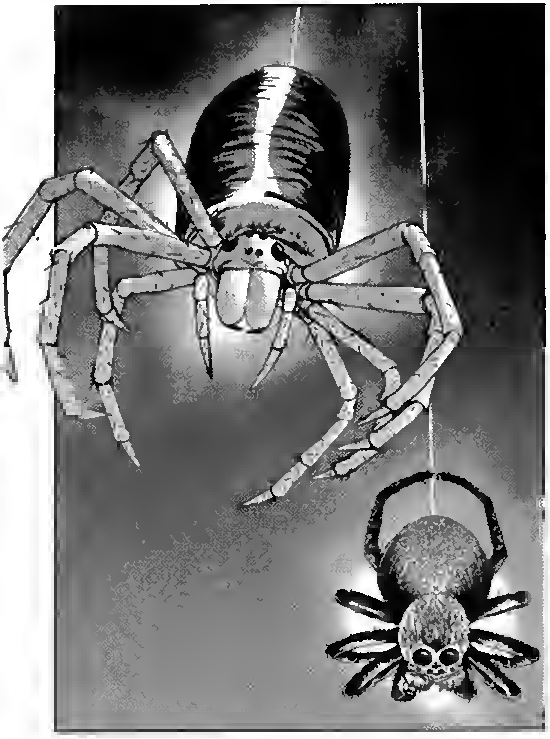

WHAT'S INSIDE?
N-NOTHING ...

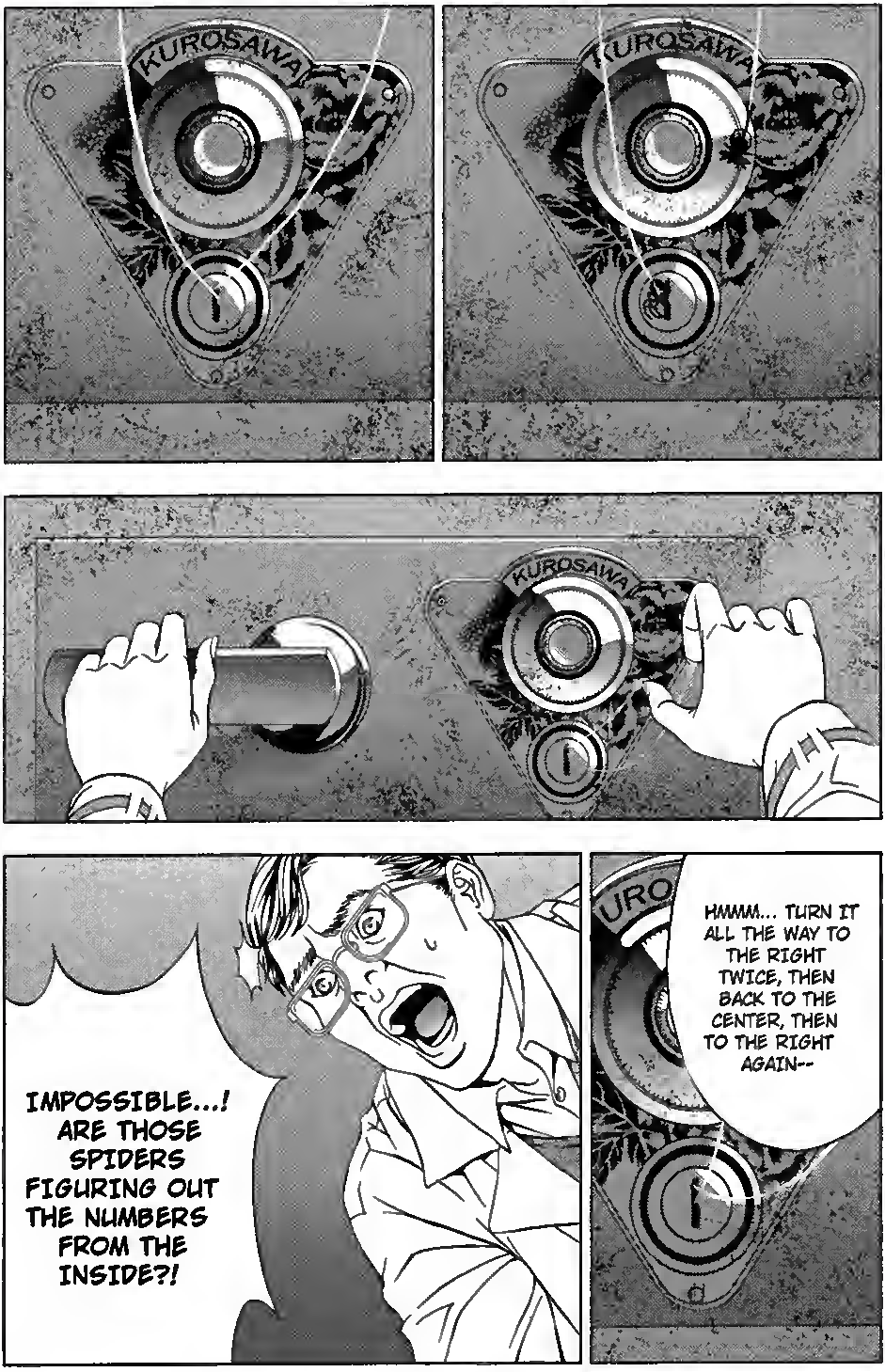
SWSS


KNOCK THAT OFF!! IT'LL NEVER OPEN IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE DIAL NUMBERS!! THAT WAS CUSTOM MADE BY THE BEST SAFE BUILDER OF THE MEIJI ERA!!

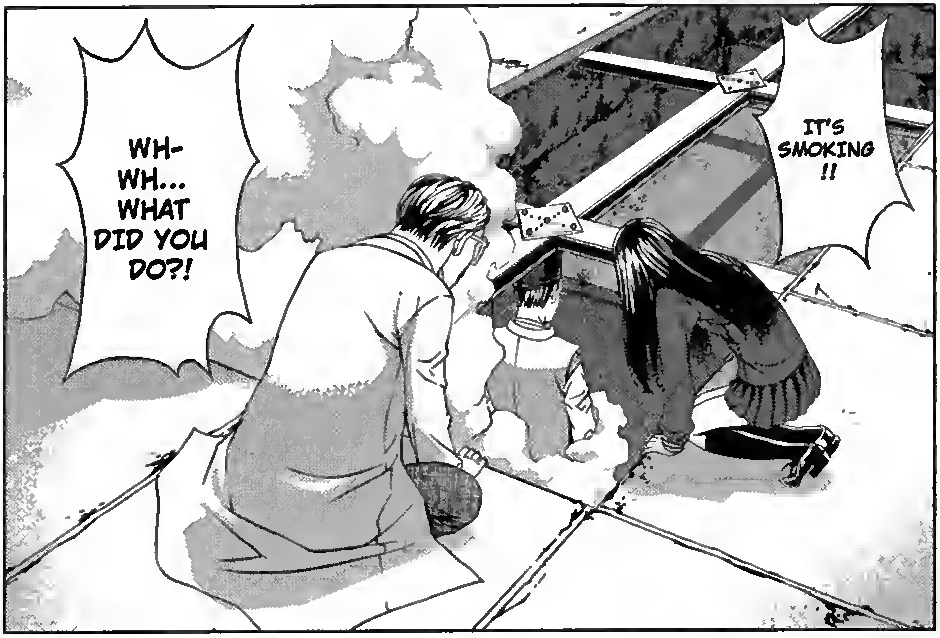



WAS IT INDEED.
KUROSAWA




KUROSAWA
KUROSAWA
KUROSAWA
IMPOSSIBLE...! ARE THOSE SPIDERS FIGURING OUT THE NUMBERS FROM THE INSIDE?!
URO
HMMM... TURN IT ALL THE WAY TO THE RIGHT TWICE, THEN BACK TO THE CENTER, THEN TO THE RIGHT AGAIN--

STOP!!
ONE TOLD ME VIA ITS THREAD. IT'S CALLED A "SPY SPIDER." I CAN GLEAN ALL KINDS OF INFORMATION FROM THE WORLD WITH IT.
THREE TURNS TO THE LEFT, TWO TO THE RIGHT-
カチ
CLICK
DID IT OPEN ?!
KUROSAWA
SSSSSS
NOT YET!! YOU STILL NEED A KEY!!

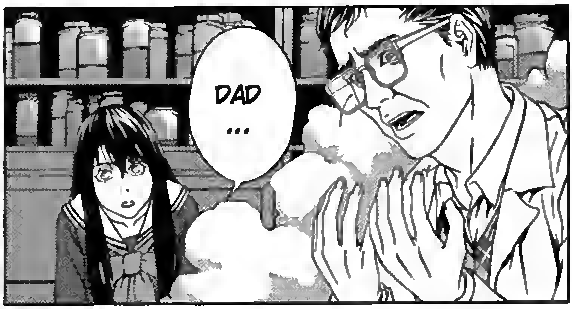

WH-
WH...
WHAT
DID YOU
DO?!
IT'S
SMOKING
!!

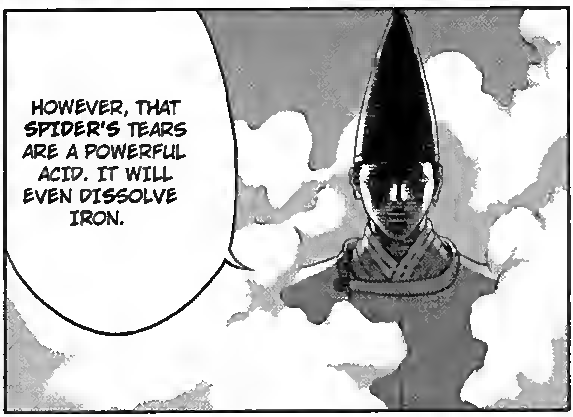
YOU AREN'T
A NITWIT...
YOU'RE A
FOOL.
WHAT?!

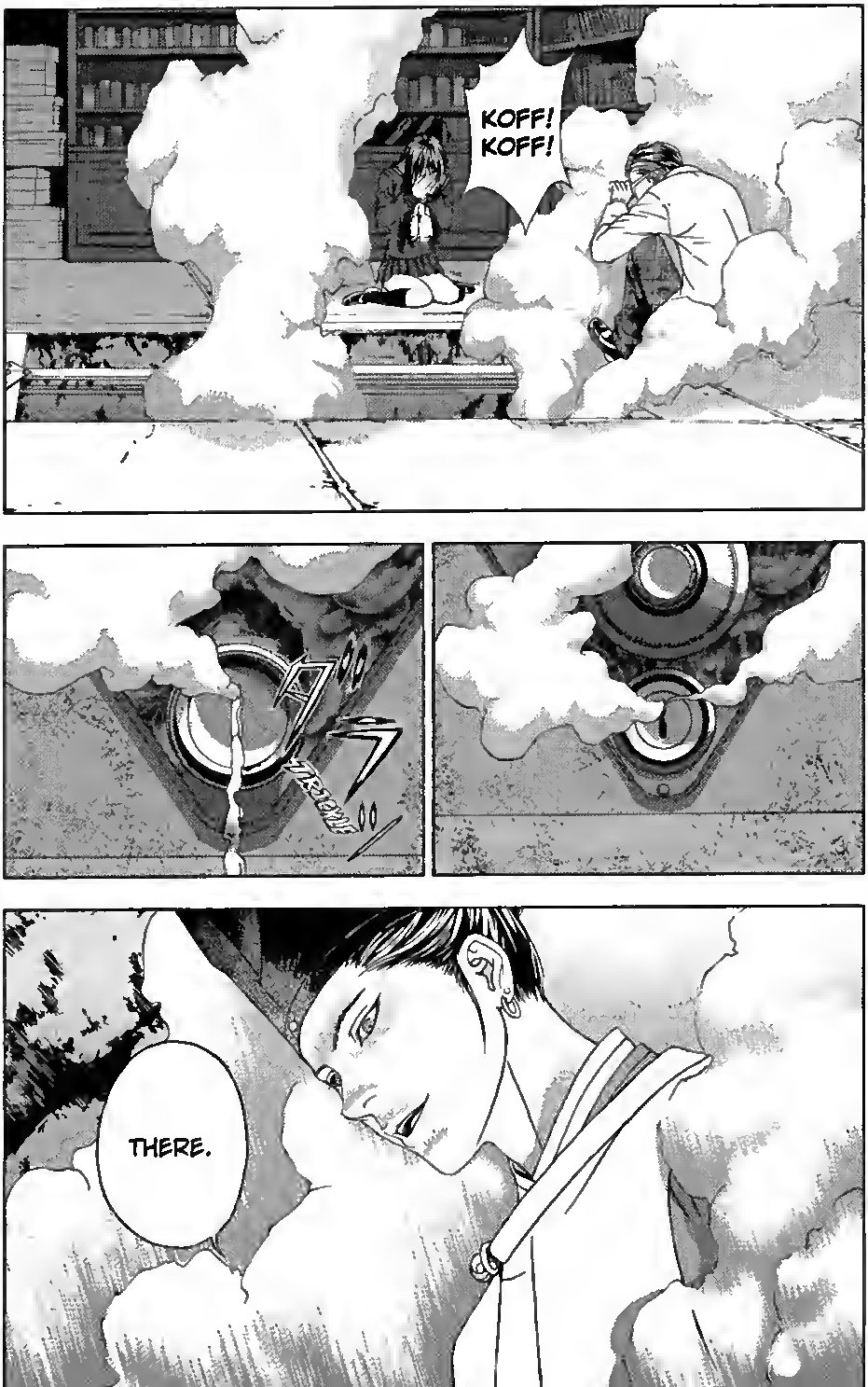
THE SECOND
SPIDER IS
CALLED A
"TEAR
SPIDER."
TEAR?!
WHAT'S
THAT?!

TEARS ARE
TEARS.
THEY'RE WHAT
COME OUT OF
YOUR EYES.
DON'T YOU
KNOW THAT?

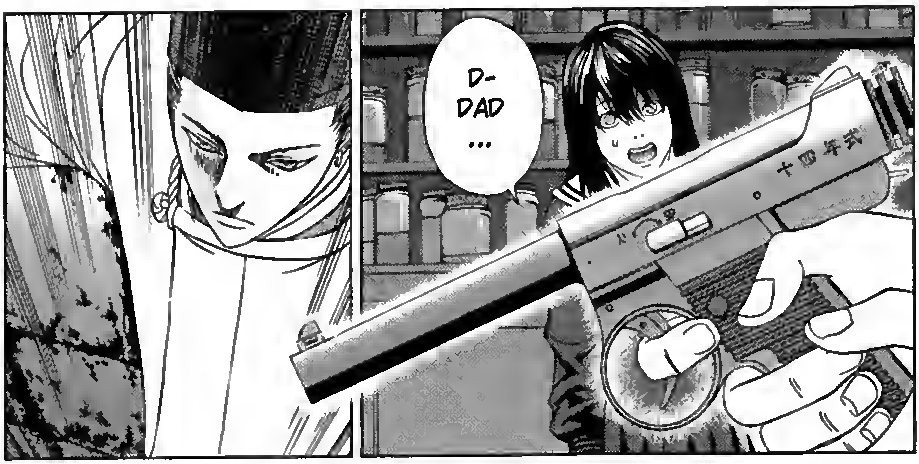
GAWA
Z
Z
Z
SHUU


DAD
...


HOWEVER, THAT SPIDER'S TEARS ARE A POWERFUL ACID. IT WILL EVEN DISSOLVE IRON.

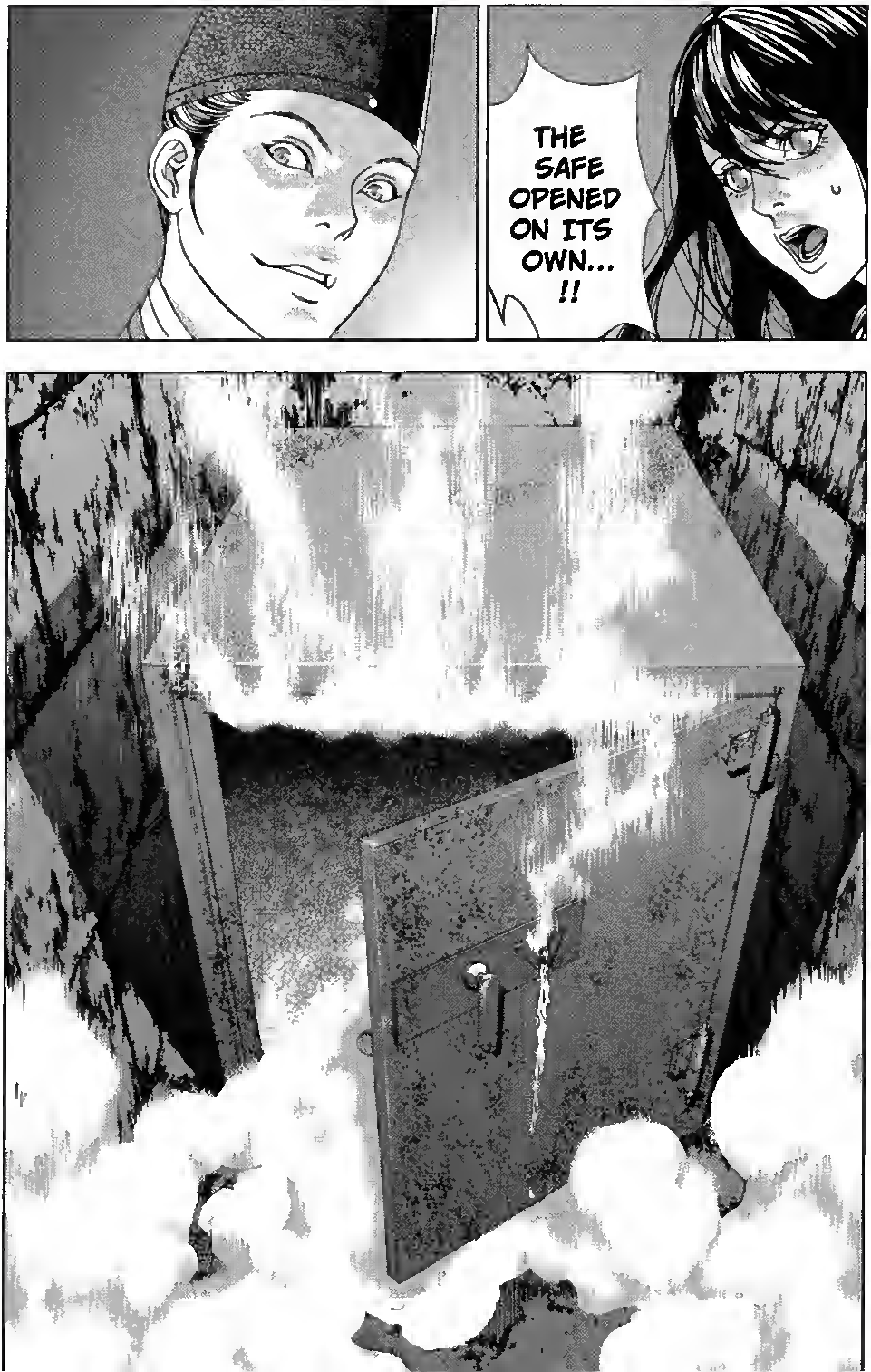

KOFF!
KOFF!
THERE.

DON'T OPEN THAT SAFE!!
I DO BELIEVE INDIVIDUALS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO OWN PESTLES IN THIS COUNTRY.
IT-IT'S NOT A *PESTLE*. IT'S A *PISTOL*!! MY GRANDFATHER KEPT IT SECRETLY, AND IT'S *BEEN* OILED.
IT CAN STILL FIRE, EVEN NOW!!

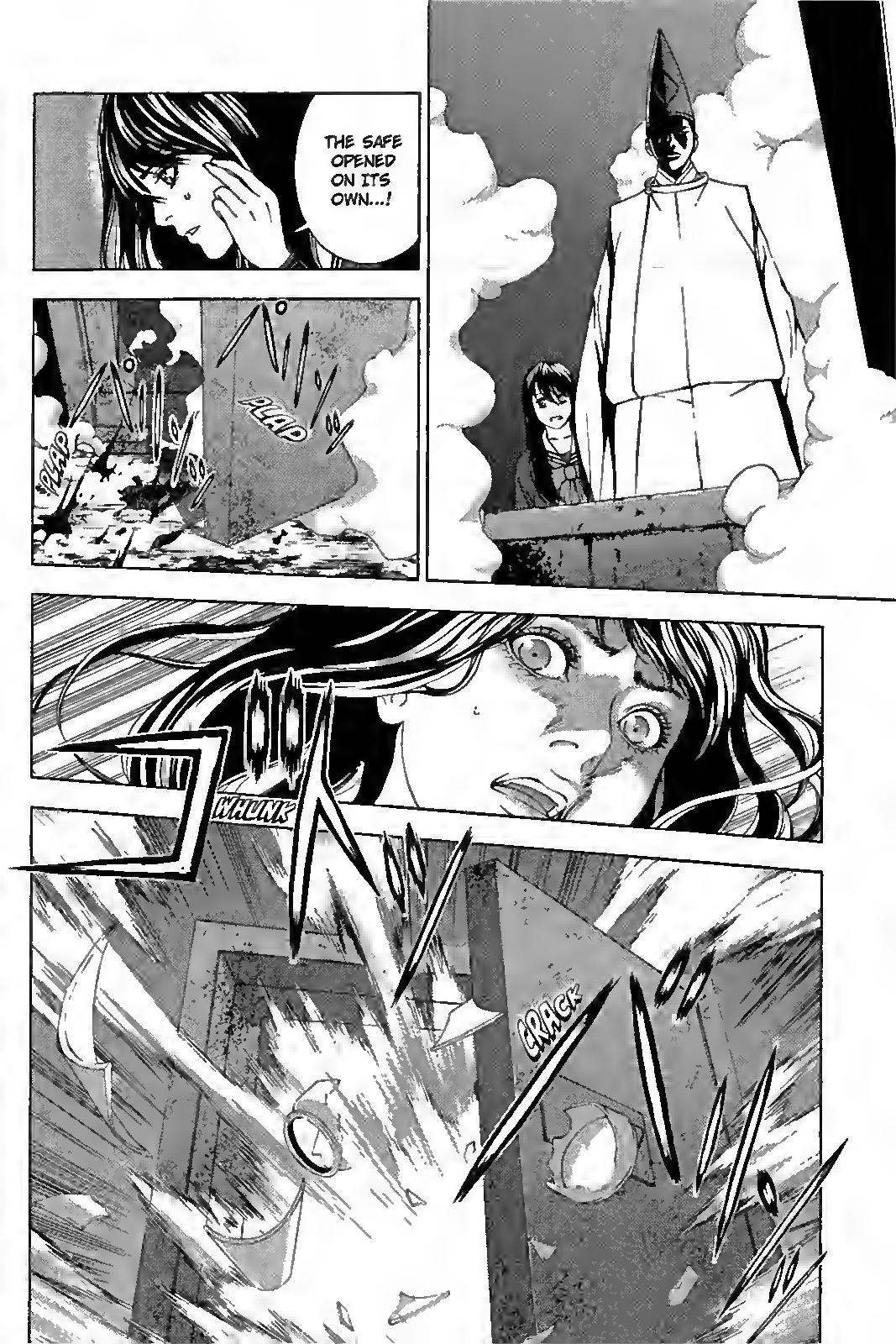

D-
DAD
...
十四年式

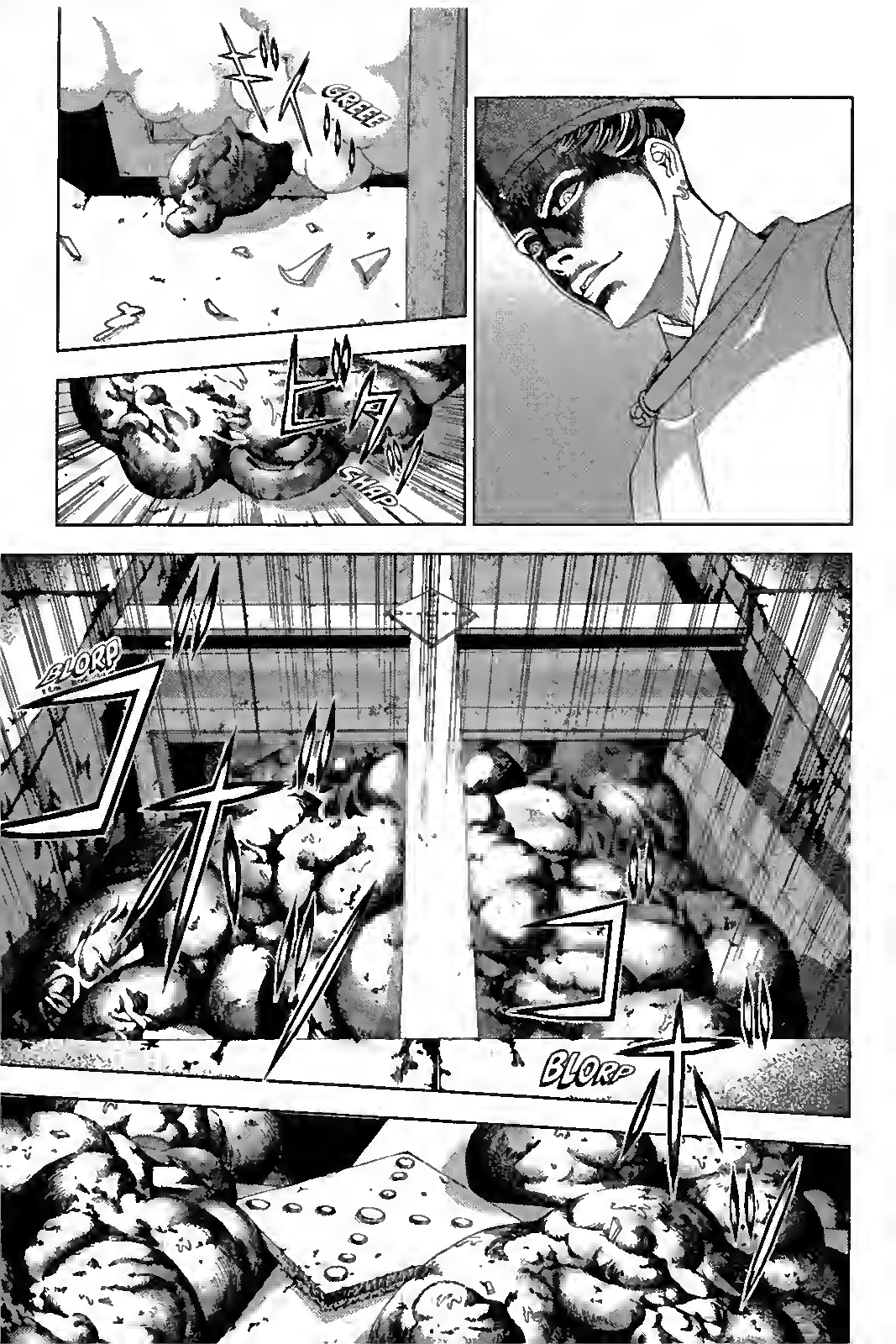
WIPE THAT SMILE OFF YOUR FACE!! I'M NOT A MAN TO BE RIDICULED THAT WAY!! I'M A DISTINGUISHED MAN WHO'S BEEN WORKING HARD TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM THE LAUGHING FACE FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER!!
I SELL THE WONDER DRUGS THAT'VE COME ABOUT AS A RESULT AND HELP SICK PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD!! I'VE GOT ENOUGH LETTERS OF THANKS PILED UP TO FILL A STOREHOUSE. I'LL SHOW THEM TO YOU SOMETIME !!
OH REALLY.

I-
I'LL
SHOOT
!!
DAD, CALM DOWN!! DON'T SHOOT THAT THING!
WHY WOULD A GREAT, DISTINGUISHED MAN PULL A GUN ON SOMEBODY? WHAT ARE YOU HIDING IN THIS SAFE?
KREEE


THE SAFE OPENED ON ITS OWN... !!

15, COUNTLESS FACES
十五、無数の顔


THE SAFE OPENED ON ITS OWN...!
FLAP
FLAP
KHUNK
CRACK


GREEE
SNAP
BLORP
BLORP

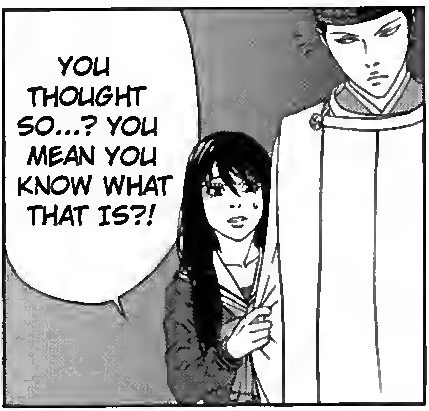
EEEEEK !!
WHOOM
WHOOM
HNN...

YOU DON'T SAY.

UGH... I-I DON'T KNOW!! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS!!
DAD... WHAT IS THAT?!
IT'S NOT A LIE, IT'S THE TRUTH!! THE LAST TIME I SAW THEM, THEY WEREN'T A MONSTER LIKE THIS!!
DON'T LIE.

I THOUGHT SO.

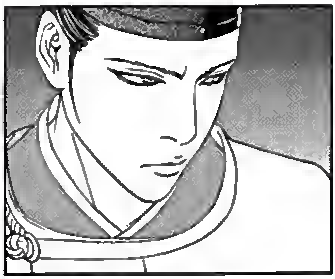
LOOK CLOSELY AT THEM. THEY'RE MORE THAN JUST A COLLECTION OF FACES.

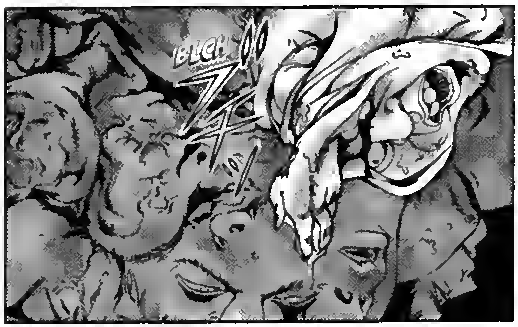

YOU THOUGHT SO...? YOU MEAN YOU KNOW WHAT THAT IS?!

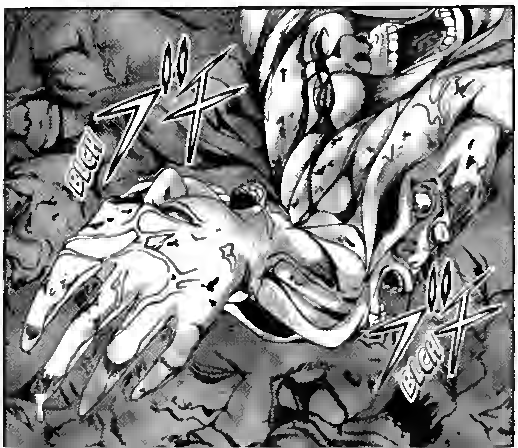
THAT'S A... SHOULDER !!
THAT'S A LEG!!
THAT'S A STOMACH !!
THAT'S A... THAT'S A...

HEAD ...!!
AND IT'S A... BABY'S ...!!
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
AHAHAHA HA
OOHEEHEEHEEHEE
HEE
HEE
HEE

NO!! STOP LAUGH-ING!!
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
STOP IT!! NO MORE OF THAT VOICE!!
!
NOW THEN.
BLAM



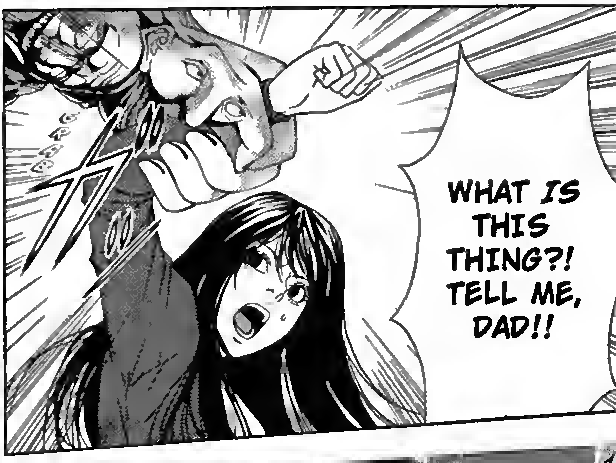

BLCH


BLCH
BLCH

WHY DID THEY ALL CLOSE THE SAME EYE?!

Zuuuu

YOUR ANCESTORS WOULD CUT OFF THE PARTS INFESTED BY THE LAUGHING FACE, AND STORE THEM IN THE SAFE.


WHAT IS THIS THING?! TELL ME, DAD!!

I'LL TELL YOU INSTEAD, GIRL.

I CAN TELL THESE WERE CUT FROM LIVING HUMANS.
IT WAS PROBABLY TO UNDO THE CURSE UPON THIS HOUSEHOLD, BUT IT WAS STILL AN ATROCIOUS DEED.
LOOK. HERE AND THERE YOU'LL SEE FRAGMENTS OF THE STORAGE CONTAINERS STUCK TO IT.
ISN'T THAT REFERRED TO AS HUMAN VIVISECTION IN "THIS WORLD"?
HEE HEE HEE! THAT'S RIGHT.

IF WE DREW INWARD, THEY'D EVEN CUT OPEN THEIR ABDOMENS.
IN ORDER TO DESTROY US, HIS FATHER AND GRANDFATHER SEIZED THE HUMANS WE POSSESSED AND CUT OFF THEIR ARMS, LEGS, AND HEADS.
HUMANS...? WHO DO YOU MEAN?
BUT ...
STRETCH
THIS FAMILY, THEIR RELATIVES, AND THEIR EMPLOYEES.
WE CURSE EVERYONE WHO GATHERS HERE.

EEHEEHEE HEEHEE! THIS ONE CLAIMED IT WAS SO HE COULD RESEARCH ME WHEN HE CUT OFF A HOUSE-KEEPER'S BREASTS!
DON'T YOU THINK THE HEADS OF THIS HOUSE-HOLD ARE CRUELER THAN US?
BLAM
HO HO HO HO HO. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S LYING, SIR!
KRUNK
NO, I DIDN'T!! THAT'S BULL!! DON'T BELIEVE IT, MIDORI!!
A WOMAN'S VOICE?!

KRUNK
KRUNK
...YORIKO?! YOU'RE BACK FROM THE DEAD?!
I SURE AM, SIR. IF YOU'RE GOING TO STAND THERE AND PRETEND YOU NEVER CARVED OUT MY BREASTS.
I SCREAMED AND SHOUTED, BUT YOU GLEEFULLY WIELDED YOUR SCALPEL AND SAID IT WAS FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR FAMILY...
I WAS 16 AT THE TIME AND YOU HAD JUST TURNED 17.

N-
NO...
IT'S A
LIE...
...
DAD...
IS IT
TRUE?
NO,
IT'S
THE
TRUTH.
THEN WHY
DO YOU
PICK ON
ME?! I'M
MIDORI'S
FATHER!
WH-WH-
WHO'S
SIDE
ARE YOU
ON?!
THAT'S A
STRANGE
THING TO
SAY. I'M ON
NO ONE'S
SIDE. IF
ANYTHING, I
SYMPATHIZE
WITH MY
POTENTIAL
BRIDE.

WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ME? THE ONLY ONE I'M CONCERNED ABOUT IS MY POTENTIAL BRIDE.
SIRRR, PLEASE GIVE ME BACK MY BOOBS.
GIVE THEM BACK...
!

AH HAH, THERE THEY ARE.
RIP

EEHEE-HEEHEE HEE! WHAT A CUTE CHEST!
NOW IT'LL BE ALL MINE!

NO!!
GRAB
GRAB

GAPE
ガブ

EEEEEK!!

ZHRR
?!
WHO ARE YOU?!!

MY NAME IS AKAMUSHI FUJIWARA.
CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE THAT I AM NOW YOUR ENEMY.

SO I CAN PROTECT MY POTENTIAL BRIDE, THAT IS.

16, DEMON DEATH WEB

十六、魔殺網

CIRCUM-
STANCES
DICTATE
THAT I AM
NOW YOUR
ENEMY.
SO I CAN
PROTECT
MY
POTENTIAL
BRIDE,
THAT IS.
AKAMUSHI
!

UGHHH ...
ARE YOU STANDING IN OUR WAY?!
HELL AWAITS YOU!!
HMPH ...
HELL?

YOU KNOW ABOUT HELL, DO YOU?
THOUGH IF IT'S THE SAME HELL I KNOW, YOU SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO TALK ABOUT IT LIKE THAT.

AT SOME POINT I'LL SHOW YOU TRUE HELL,
BUT FIRST, GO BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM.
...
THOUGH I WAS THE ONE WHO LET YOU OUT OF THERE.
HEH HEH!

GRRRRR... WE HATE YOU!!
WE HATE YOU!!
WE HATE YOU!!

WE HATE YOU!!!

HMM, LAUGHING FACE ISN'T LAUGHING. YOU'VE FINALLY BECOME LIKE ORDINARY PEOPLE.
EEK!

SHUT YOUR FACE!! GRAHHHH !!

TAKE THIS !!

BUT THAT MEANS YOU'VE LOST.

GUH HOH HOH HOH HOH HOH !!

MY EARS... IT'S DRIVING ME CRAZY!!
WHAT'S THAT SOUND ?!
STILL!
THRUST
HOH HOH HOH! HOW ABOUT THAT?
IT MAKES FOR A SWEET LULLABY.

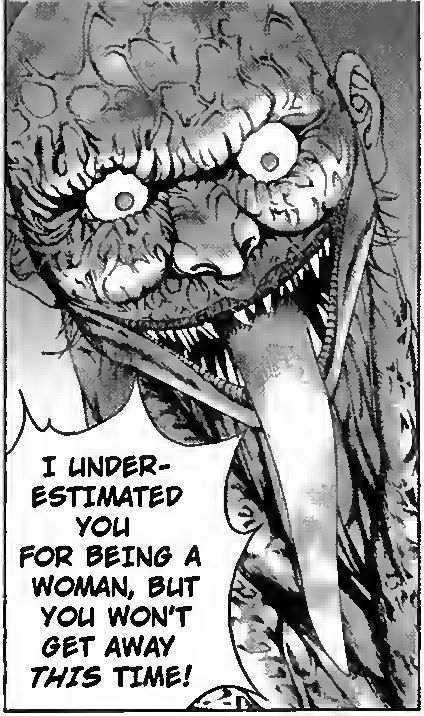
ヒュ
ヒュ

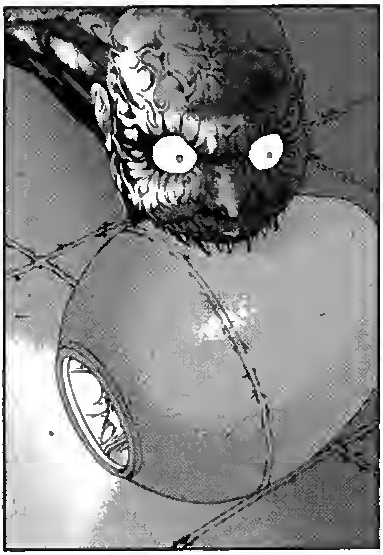
LUNGE

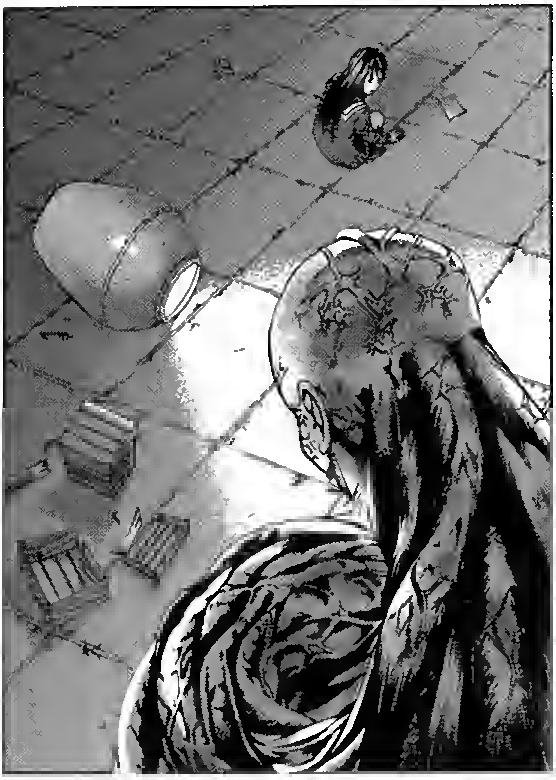
NOOO!
SLICE
UNH!

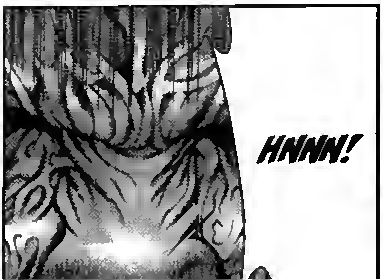
MHMHM HMHM!
AHH!
I'VE GOT THE KUROSAWA GIRL!!

GUHAH !
RAGH HHH!
HNN!
OW...!
KO!!
WHAP!


I UNDER-
ESTIMATED
YOU
FOR BEING A
WOMAN, BUT
YOU WON'T
GET AWAY
THIS TIME!






HNNN!

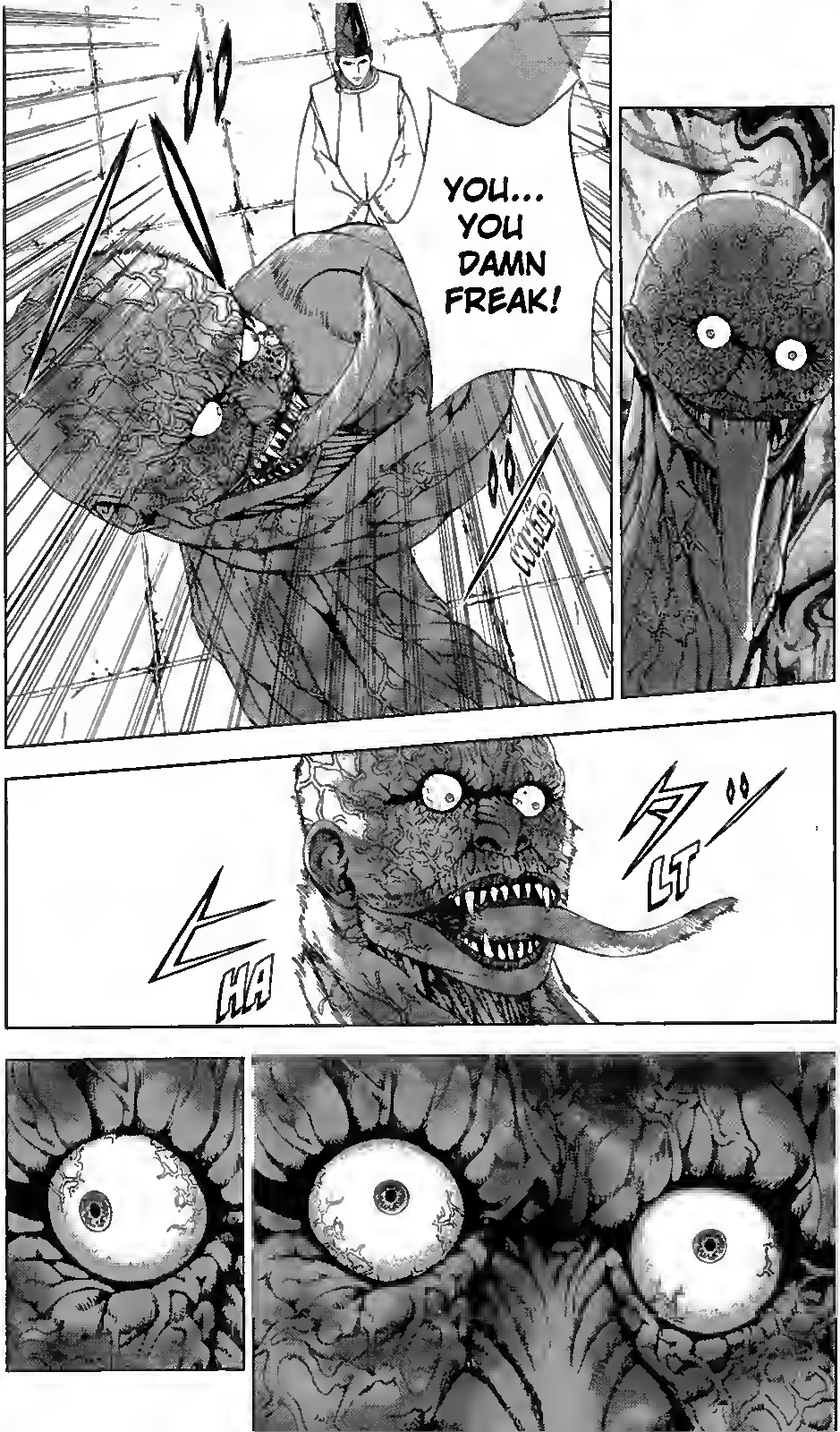
MY, MY, YOU'RE A STRONG ONE.
*NOTE: ROUGHLY 1100 POUNDS
THAT POT AND WHAT'S IN IT TOGETHER WEIGH 500 KILOGRAMS*!!

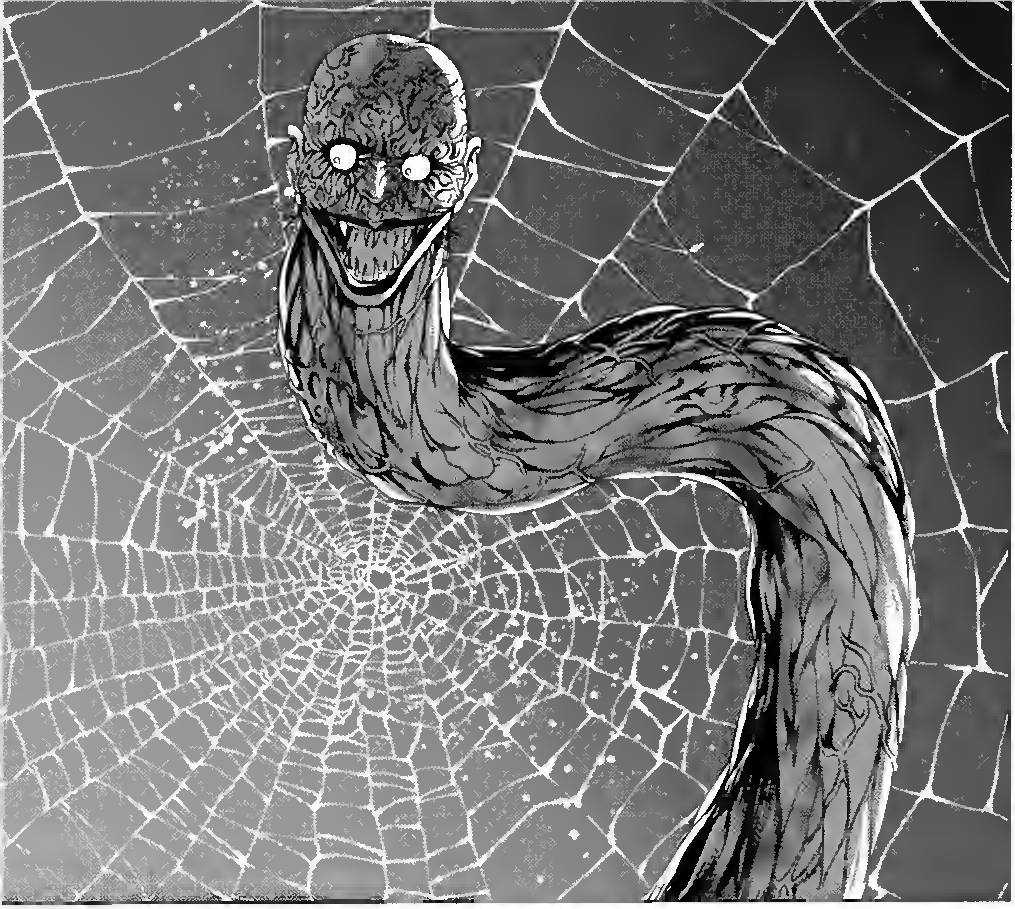
UHYAH HYAH!
STOP ADMIRING IT AND HELP ME!!
EEEK! IT'S GONNA CRUSH ME!!
MI-DORIII !!
BOMBS AWAY!!

...
LO
HALT
...?
IS THIS... THREAD?

WHO THE HELL...
WHO ON EARTH ...
WHO ...
ARE YOU?!

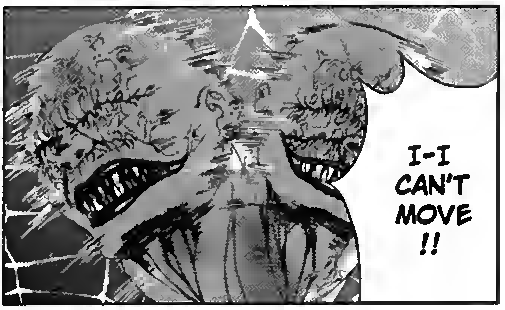
ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO, THERE WAS A LARGE-SCALE LANDSLIDE IN THAT ARGENTINA COUNTRY.
YOU DID THAT WITH ONLY THIS MINUTE THREAD...?!
THE ROCKS THAT FELL TOWARDS THE VILLAGE BELOW WEIGHED ROUGHLY FIVE MILLION TONS...
WHAT HELD THEM AT BAY AND RESULTED IN NO ONE DYING WERE TWO THREADS, STRETCHED INTO A CROSS ALONG THE VALLEY.


YOU... YOU DAMN FREAK!
HA
LT



UNDO THESE THREADS, YOU BASTARD!!

WHEN DID YOU SPIN THIS?!


I-I CAN'T MOVE !!

YOU'VE FAR OUTLIVED ANY HUMAN, YET THAT'S ALL YOU CAN THINK TO SAY?
THIS GOES FOR HUMANS TOO. BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVEN'T PROGRESSED OR EVOLVED MUCH.

W-WAIT!!
YOU AREN'T HUMAN... SO YOU'RE ONE OF US!!

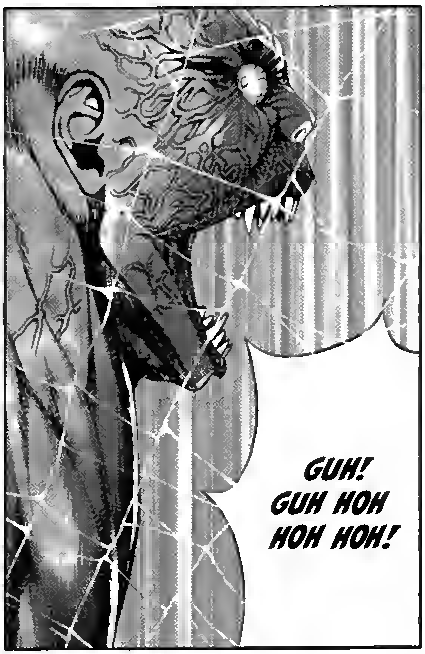
THAT'S OBVIOUS. DESTROY YOU.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ME?!

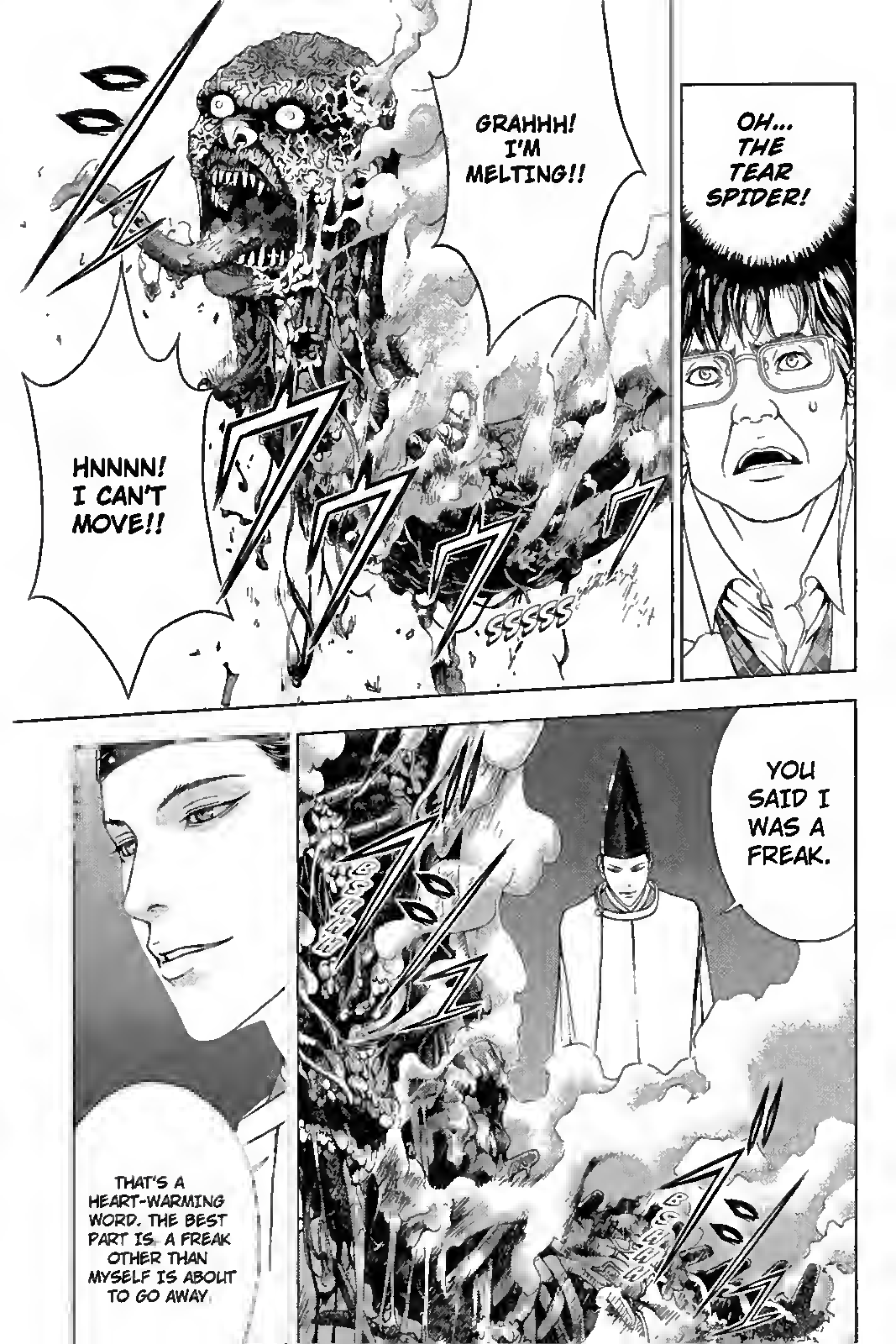
LIKE I SAID, I DON'T APPROVE OF THOSE WHO ARE THE SAME AS ME.
FW
IT
?
!!

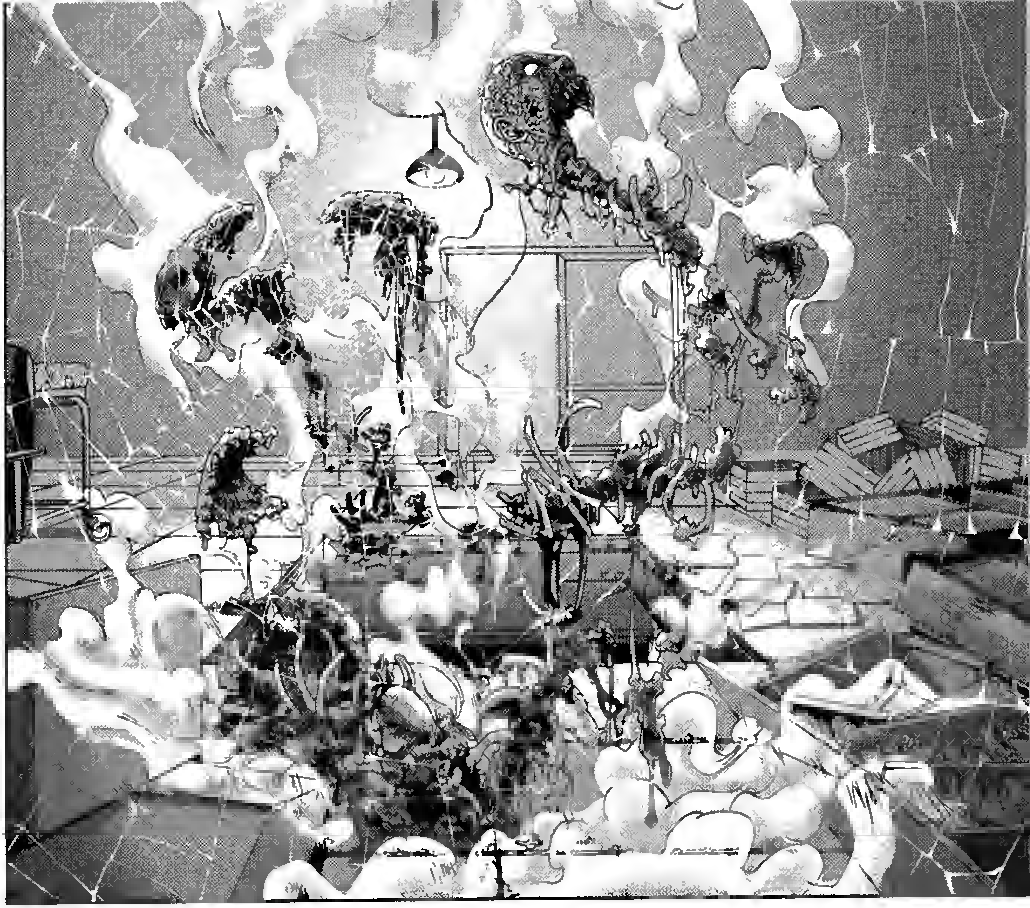
SSSSS

PLACH
PLACH


GUH! GUH HOH HOH HOH!

IT'S MELTING !!

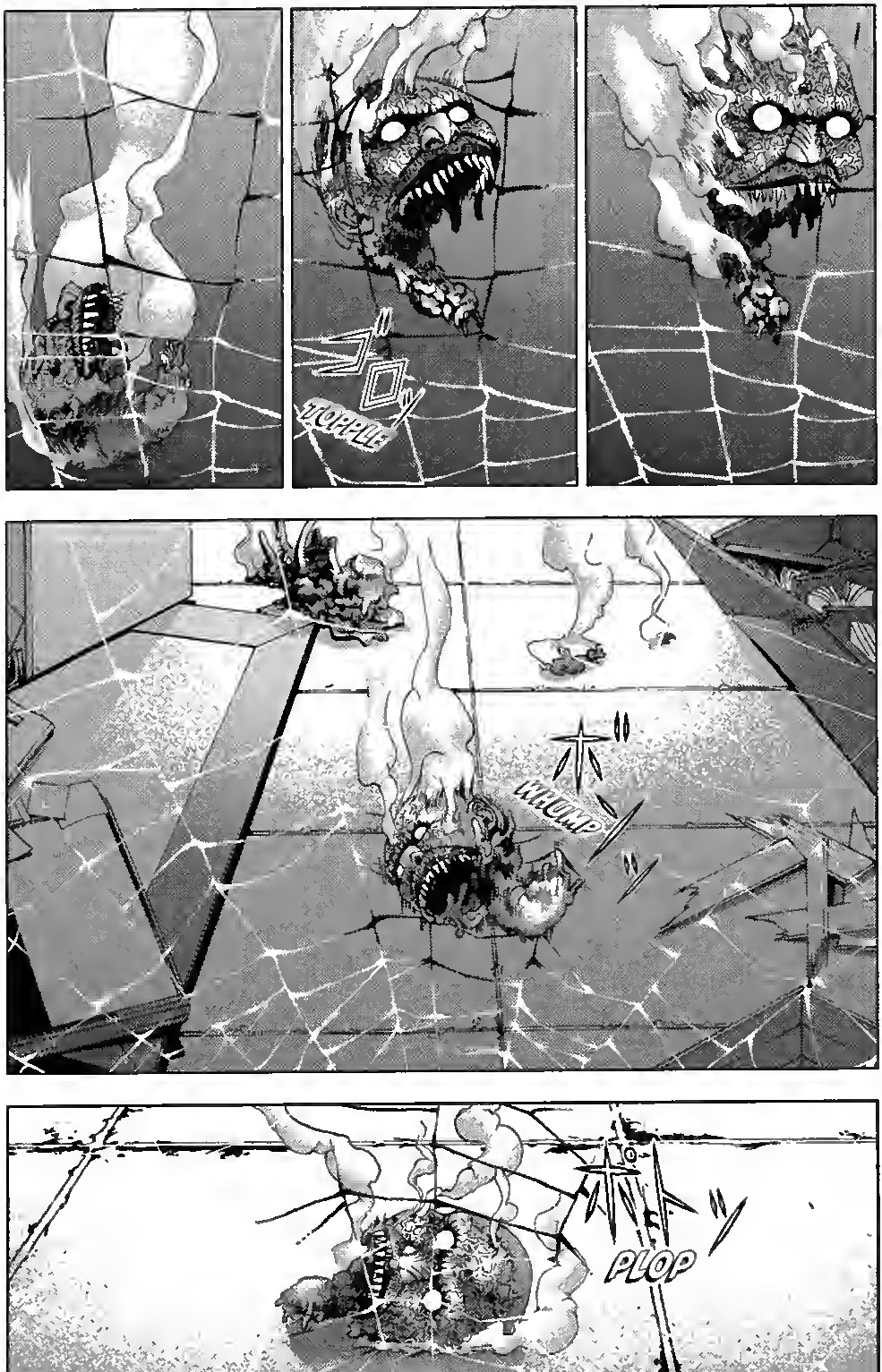

GRAHHH! I'M MELTING!!
OH... THE TEAR SPIDER!
HNNNN! I CAN'T MOVE!!
SSSSS
YOU SAID I WAS A FREAK.
THAT'S A HEART-WARMING WORD. THE BEST PART IS, A FREAK OTHER THAN MYSELF IS ABOUT TO GO AWAY.



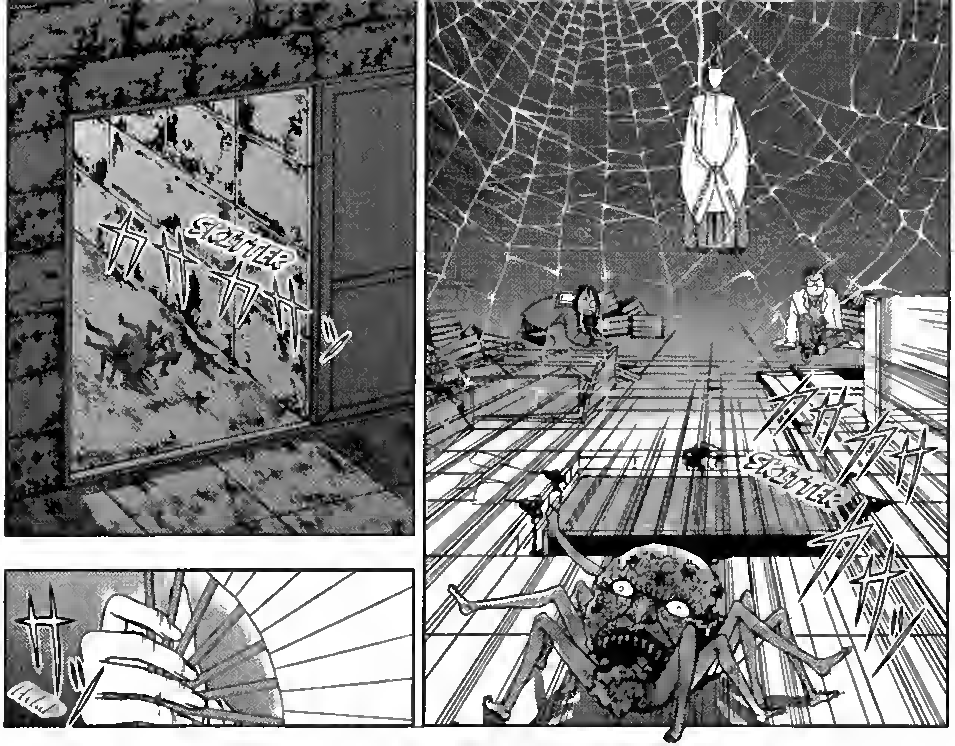
THINK AGAIN.

I WON'T BE DESTROYED!
I ENDURED OVER A HUNDRED YEARS INSIDE THAT GLOOMY SAFE! I SWEAR...I SWEAR I'LL LIVE AGAIN...!

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
DIE!! DIE, DAMN YOU!!
NOW THE KUROSAWAS WILL BE AT PEACE!!
FOOL.
HUH ?!
BEEEH

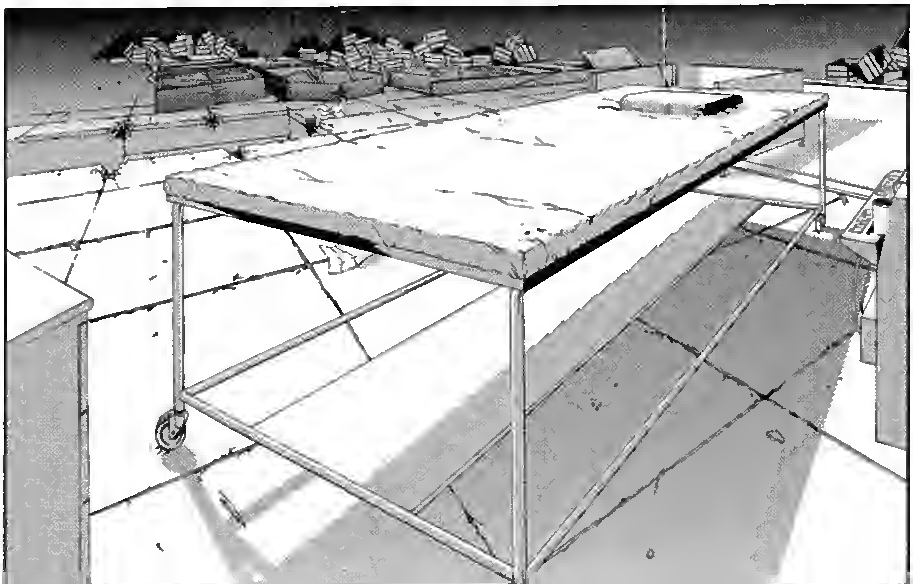

TOPPLE
KRUMP
PLOP

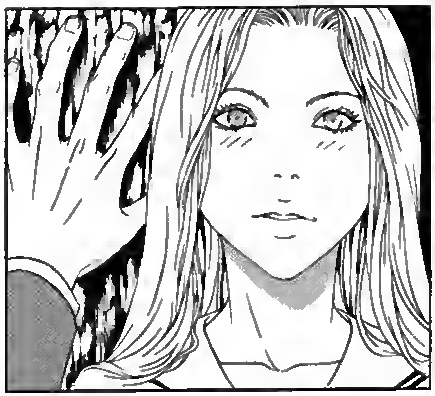
ITS BLOOD MADE THE THREADS LOSE THEIR TENACITY.
NYOOMP


SHATTER
SHATTER

I'D EXPECT NOTHING LESS FROM MY KIND.

17, NIGHT, THEN MORNING
十七、夜そして朝



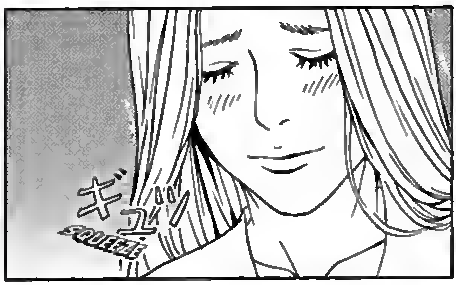


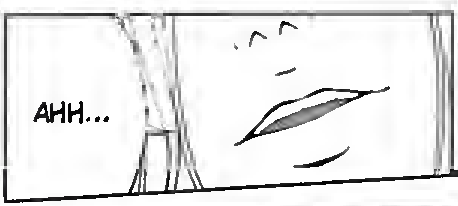
RUB
RUB
RUB
SAY WHAT?
TAKIN' A WALK IN THE WOODS WAS YOUR IDEA.
AH, NO YOU DON'T.

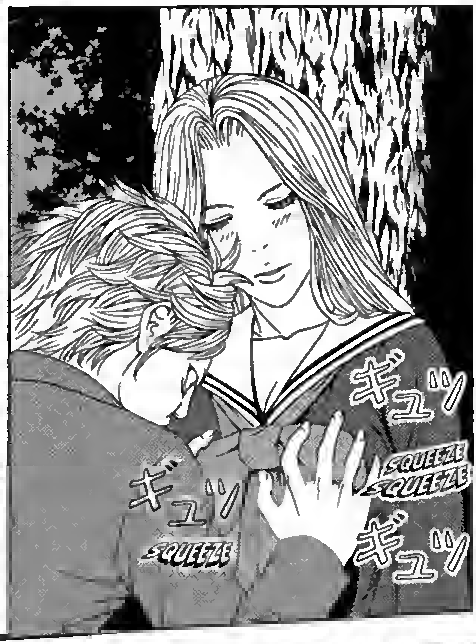
YOU LIKE MIDORI KUROSAWA, DON'T YOU?
THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE SAYS.
?
WE'RE STILL IN SCHOOL, AND BESIDES...
BUT SHE'S SO PRETTY...
YOU WANT TO DO STUFF LIKE THIS WITH HER, DON'T YOU?
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I LIKE!!
G-GET REAL. THEY'RE THE LAUGHING FACE FAMILY!

THEN OKAY.
REALLY ?
YEAH, REALLY !!
MAYBE JUST A LITTLE.
TOUCH
HEH HEHEH ...

ギュッ
SQUEEZE


ギュッ
SQUEEZE


AHH...

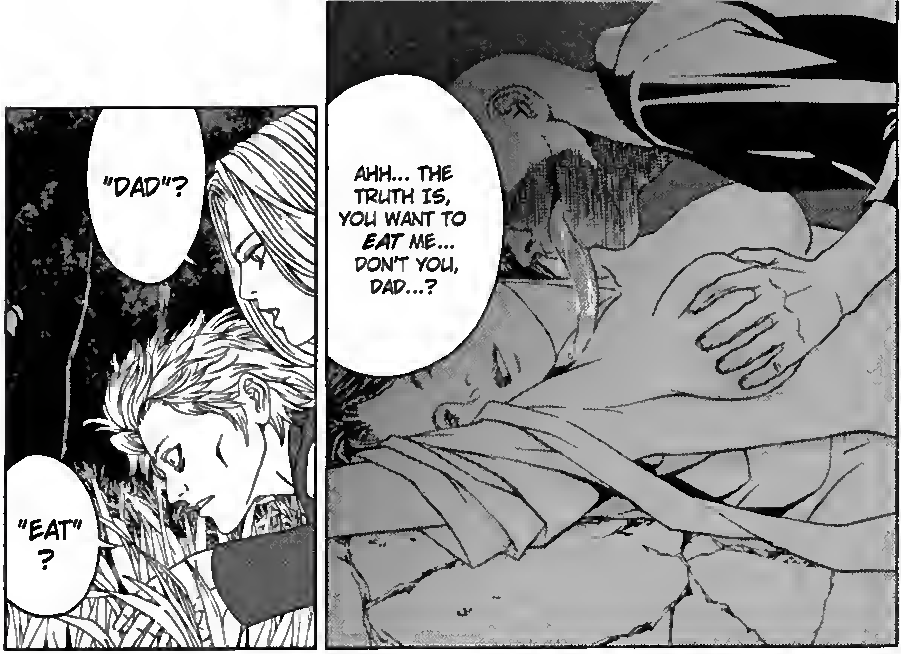

ギュッ
SQUEEZE
ギュッ
SQUEEZE
ギュッ
SQUEEZE
ギュッ

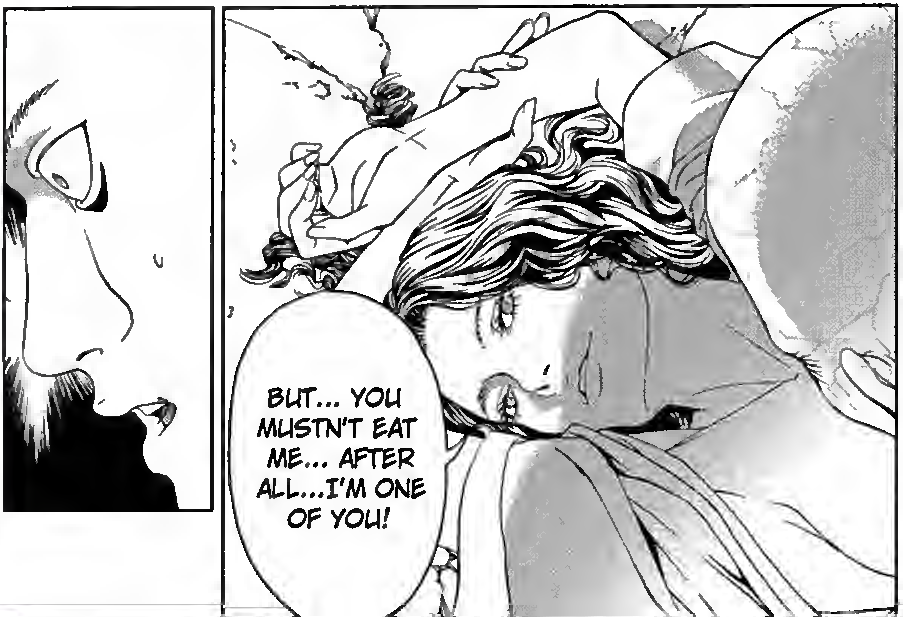
AAAAHH
あああ
HHHHHHH
あああ

AHH!
AHHH!

GRAPE
AHH!
THAT
HURTS!

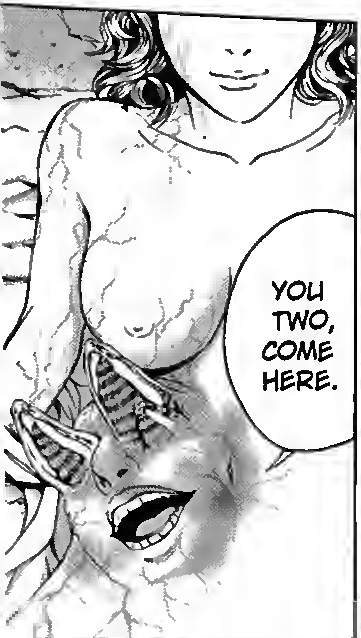
WH-
WHO
IS IT?
IT'S TOO
DARK TO
TELL.

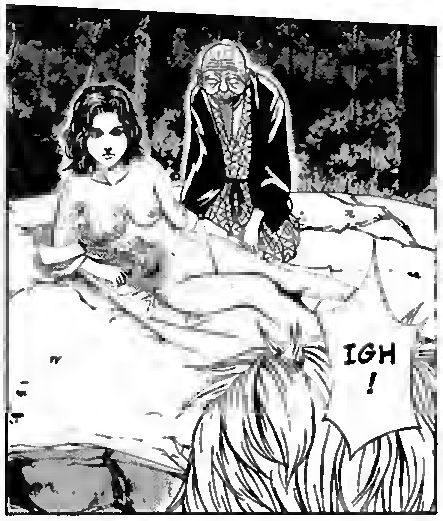

"DAD"?
"EAT" ?
AHH... THE TRUTH IS, YOU WANT TO EAT ME... DON'T YOU, DAD...?

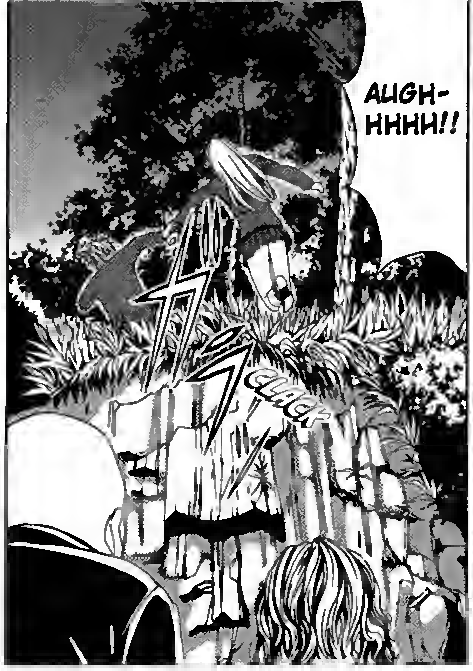

BUT... YOU MUSTN'T EAT ME... AFTER ALL...I'M ONE OF YOU!

OOHEE
HEEHEE
HEEHEE!

FLAP FLAP
バサバサ
HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE
THE REAL LAUGHING FACE?!
IS THAT ...?!

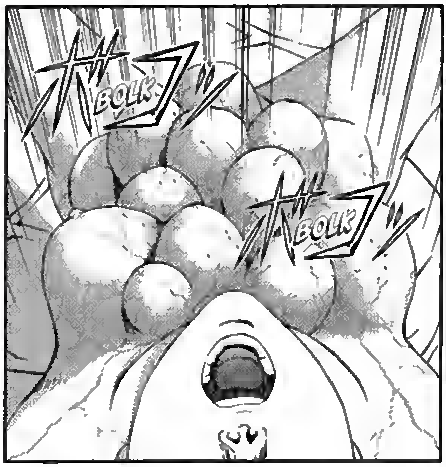

YOU TWO, COME HERE.


IGH!


ALIGH-
HHHH!!

"COME
HERE,"
MY
ASS!!

BUT
...


BOLK
BOLK

THE ONE WHO
POSSESSED
THIS WOMAN
BEFORE ME
WAS BURIED
BY A SINGLE
THREAD.

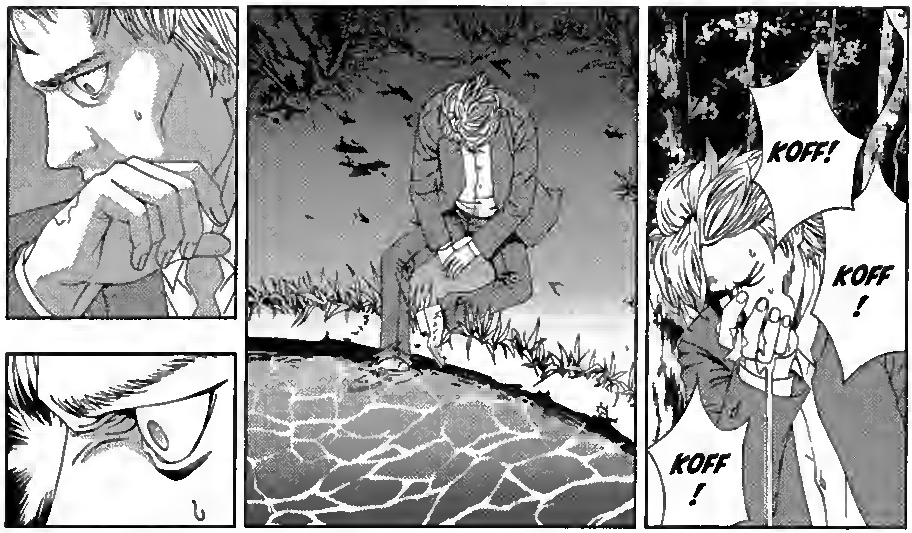
I'M TOUGHER THAN THAT!!

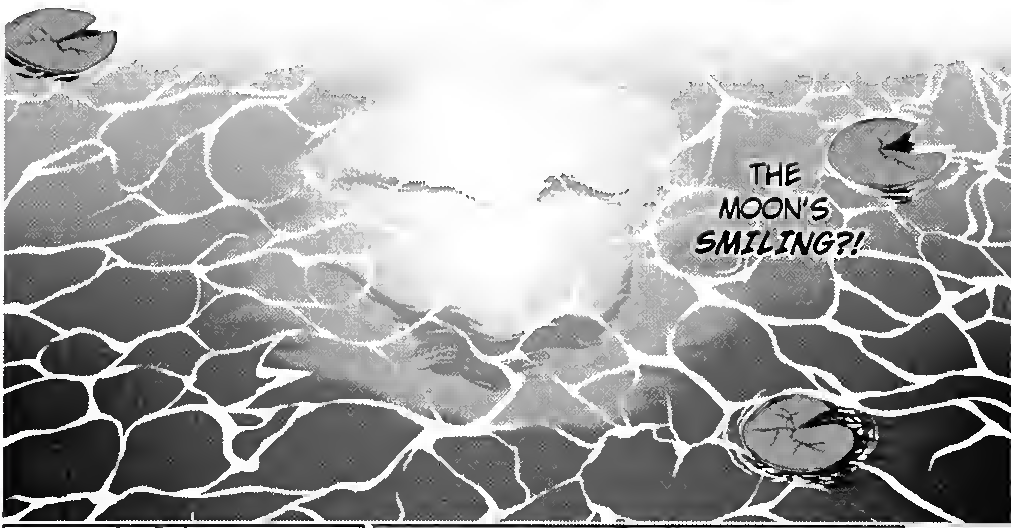
YEEEEE!!

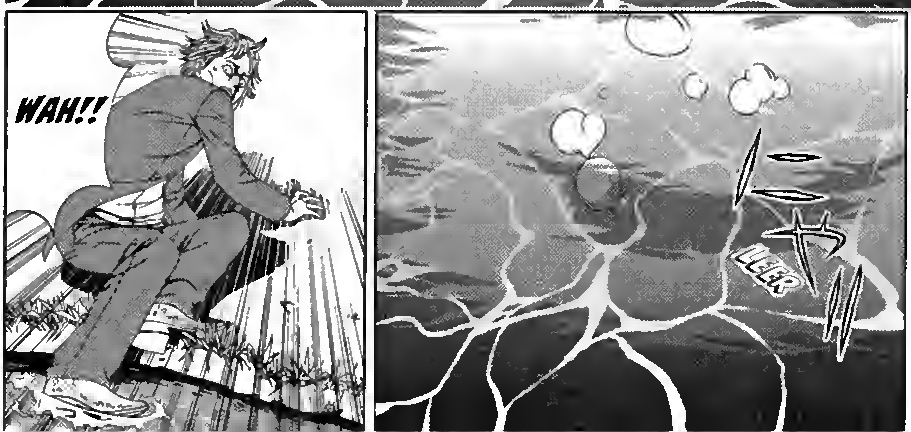
OOF!!
WHUMP
WAIT FOR ME, YOU COWARD!!

CR
UNCH
GYAH HHH!
GRUNCH
GRUNCH
AHH!
GRUNCH
GRUNCH

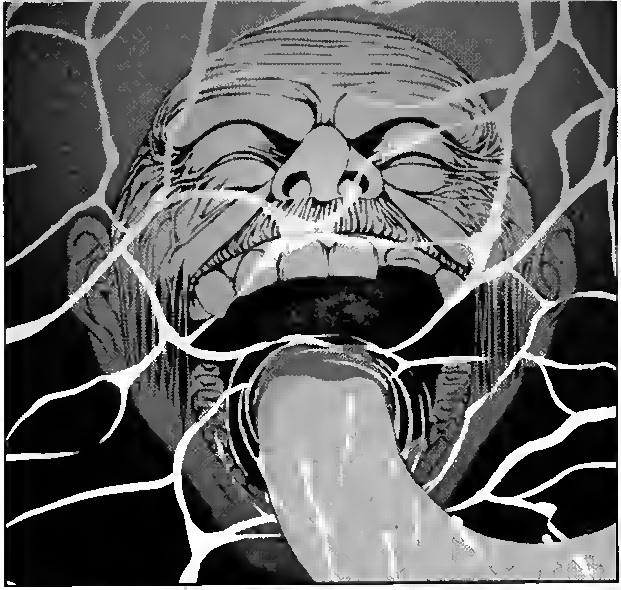
HAHH !
HAHH !
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!
WHAT IS THAT?!
KOFF!
GULP
GULP
THROAT'S DRY. NEED WATER...

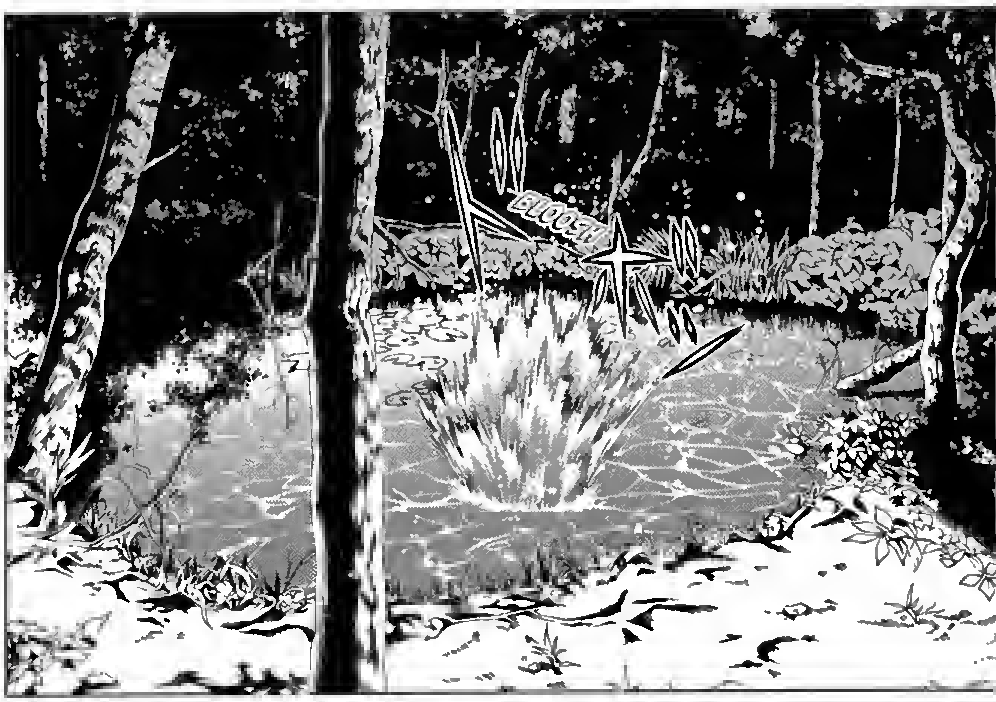

KOFF!
KOFF!
KOFF!

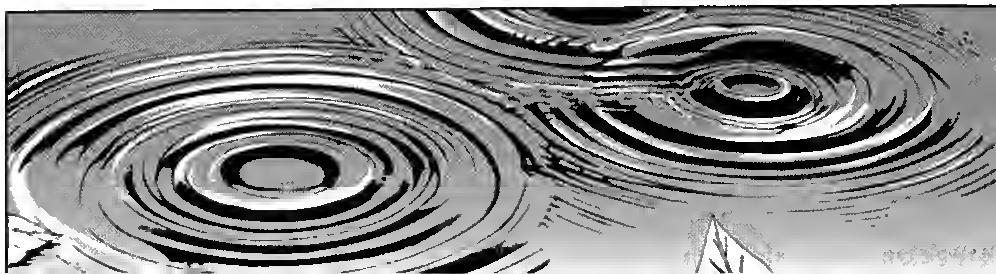

THE MOON'S SMILING?!


WAH!!
GLUG

BOOSH
UWAH!
SHUP

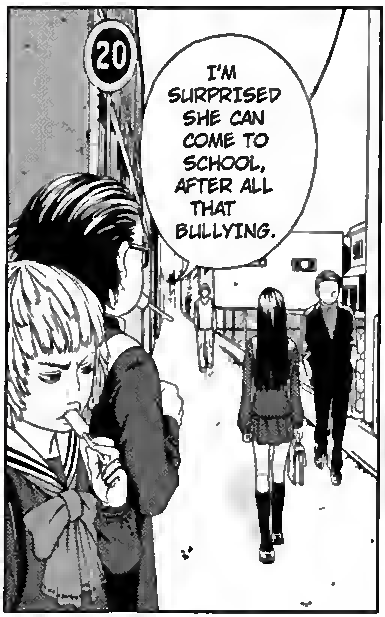


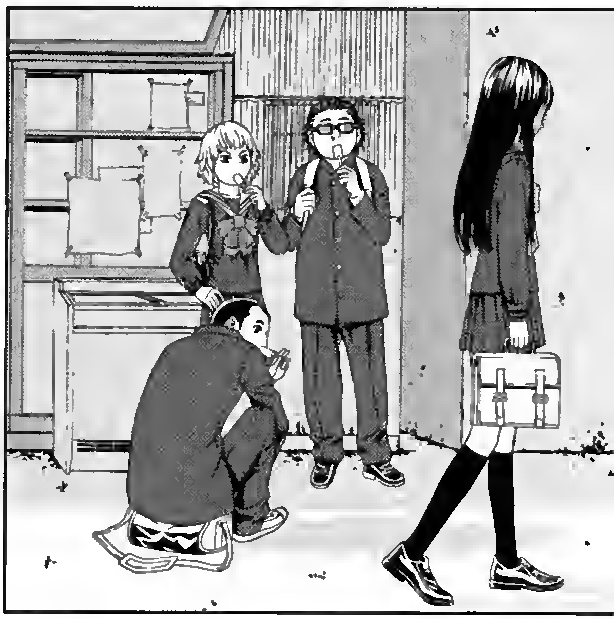

BLOOSH



HUH
HUH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH

IT'S MIDORI KURO-SAWA.
20

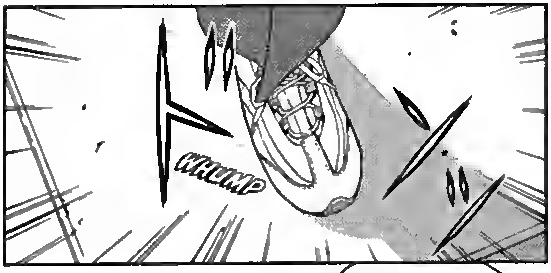

20
I'M SURPRISED SHE CAN COME TO SCHOOL, AFTER ALL THAT BULLYING.



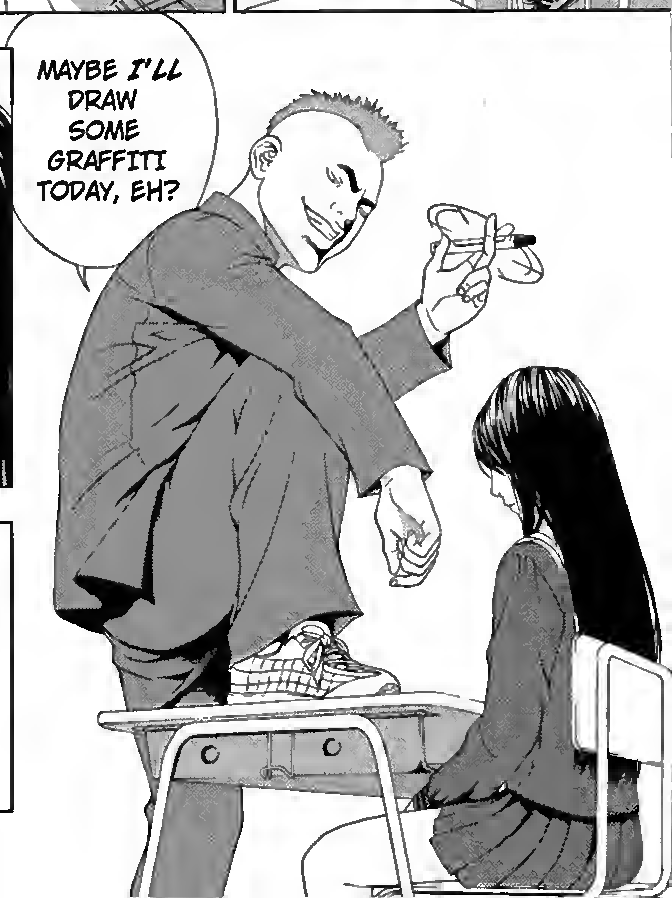
BUT ...
I'LL GET BULLIED AGAIN TODAY...

THAT WAS NO DREAM!
WHAT'S BULLYING COMPARED TO THOSE MONSTERS?

WHACK

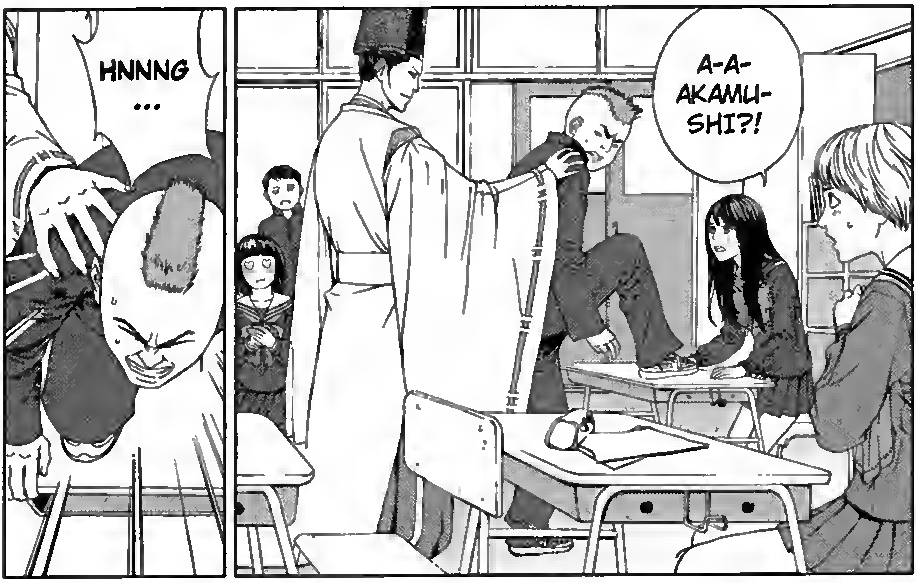

CRUMP

DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.

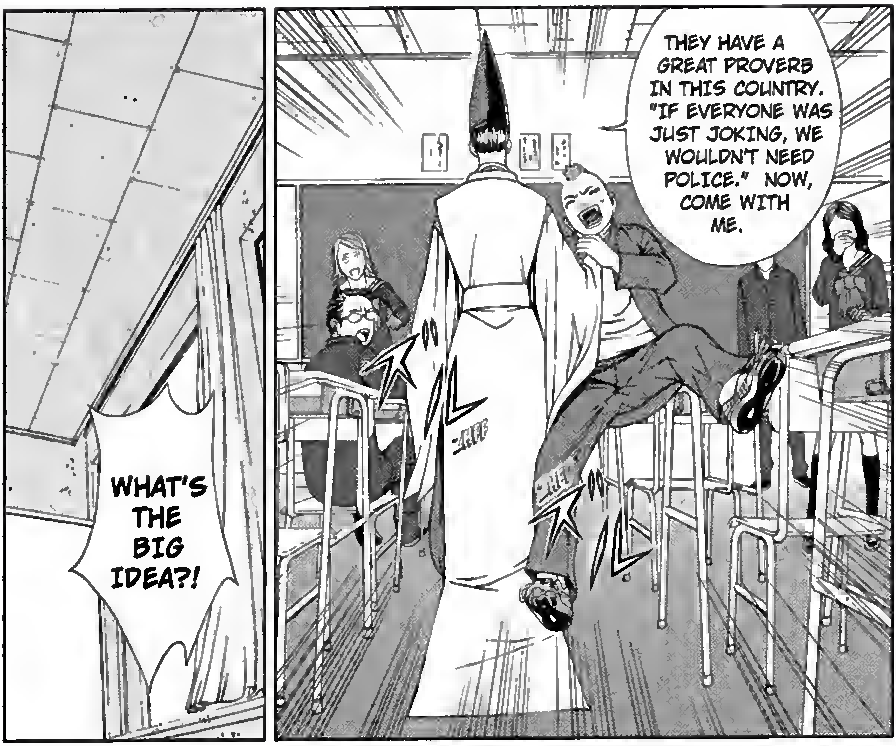

MAYBE I'LL DRAW SOME GRAFFITI TODAY, EH?

HUH ?

WHAT ?!
BECAUSE I'VE GOT A STRONG BOYFRIEND! HE'LL SWALLOW THE LIKES OF YOU WHOLE!
GO ON AND DRAW IF YOU WANT. BUT YOU'LL BE SORRY LATER.
NO, HE'S MORE AMAZING THAN A LION OR A TIGER.
HAHAHAHAHA! ARE YOU AN IDIOT?! SWALLOW ME? HAVE YOU GOT A LION OR TIGER OR SOMETHING?!
AGHH ?!
!!


HNNNG
...
A-A-
AKAMU-
SHI?!

CARE TO FIND OUT WHY I'M MORE AMAZING THAN A LION OR A TIGER?
WHAT'S UP WITH HIS HAND?! I CAN'T MOVE!
N-NO... NO THANK YOU...
EVEN IF YOU DON'T, IT DOESN'T EXCUSE YOU FROM THE RUDENESS YOU DISPLAYED TOWARD MY FIANCEE.
GEHAH!
TH-THAT WAS... I WAS... JOKING...
GRAB!


WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?!
THEY HAVE A GREAT PROVERB IN THIS COUNTRY. "IF EVERYONE WAS JUST JOKING, WE WOULDN'T NEED POLICE." NOW, COME WITH ME.

KUROIDO
!!
LURCH

SHIRT: HAVE A PURE HEART
FOR ONE OF MY GUYS, YOU'RE PATHETIC, YOU KNOW!

WHOA!
CRASH
ガシャッ
LOOM
LOOM

I HEARD THERE WAS SOME WEIRDO HERE AT THE SCHOOL, SO I CAME TO TAKE A LOOK.
心を
キレイに

TO BE CONTINUED IN
TAIMASHIN: THE RED SPIDER
EXORCIST 4

Illustrated by SHIN Yong-gwan

YONG-GWAN SHIN REFLECTS GRAVELY ON HIS FAILURE TO MEET HIS MAGAZINE'S MONTHLY DEADLINES. BUT THE REASON HE'S LATE IS SO HE CAN DELIVER NICE DRAWINGS TO ALL OF YOU!

UNQUENCHABLE THIRST FOR MANGA?!

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STOP

This is the back of the book!
Start from the other side.

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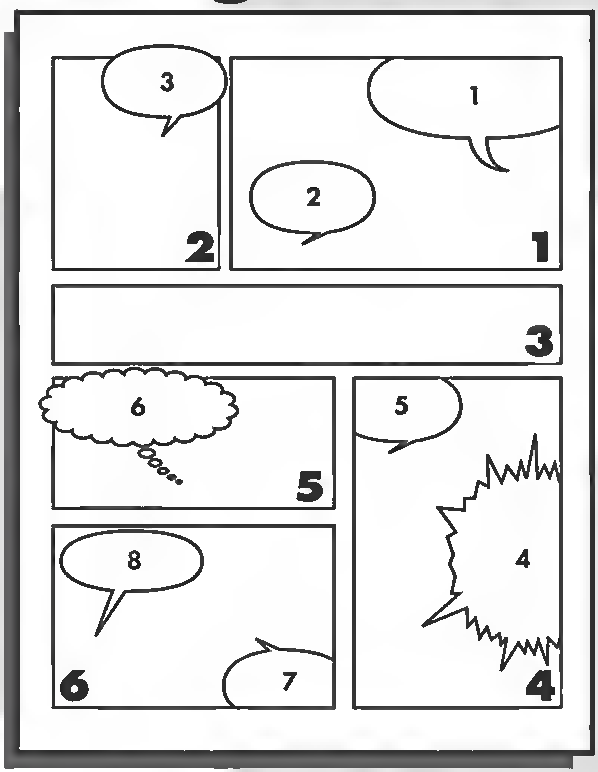
readers read manga from *right to left*.



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Follow the diagram to see how its done.
Surf's Up!

TAIMASHIN 3
The Red Spider Exorcist
Akamushi the Red Spider Exorcist has found an abundance of monster filled mayhem during his travels. Now in Japan at the Kurosawa family residence, he not only encounters a bullied school girl that he feels may one day make him a fine wife, but an ancient family curse. The Laughing Face is anything but fun and games, as its demonic minions wreak murder and mayhem across the centuries, affecting the Kurosawas and anyone else within their family domain. The enemy may be many, but they haven't yet faced off against anything like Akamushi. Who will prevail and who will go the netherworld?
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